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NORTH WEST SHROPSHIRE HEALTH DISTRICTS



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year

1951



ELLESMERE URBAN DISTRICT  
BOROUGH OF OSWESTRY  
WEM URBAN DISTRICT  
WHITCHURCH URBAN DISTRICT  
ELLESMERE RURAL DISTRICT  
OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT  
WEM RURAL DISTRICT





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OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT  
WEM RURAL DISTRICT

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# PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

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## Medical Officer of Health:

L. WILSON EVANS, M.C., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

## ELLESMERE URBAN DISTRICT

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor: W. H. DAVIES, M.S.I.A., A.M.I.S.E.

## OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Sanitary Inspector: H. T. ISAAC, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

## WEM URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICTS

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor: F. MORCOM, M.S.I.E. (Bronze Medallist), M.S.I.A., Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor: J. K. HUNT, A.R.San.I.

## WHITCHURCH URBAN DISTRICT

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor: F. W. SANDERS, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor: R. E. HOOSON, A.R.S.I., C.S.I.B., Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

## ELLESMERE RURAL DISTRICT

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor: T. H. POWELL, A.R.San.I., Member A.R.D.C. Surveyors and A.L.G.E. and S.

Assistant to Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor: P. C. DAWSON.

## OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

Sanitary Inspector: J. V. MEREDITH, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector: D. L. EVANS.

Clerk: MISS O. WILLIAMS.

†Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health for North West Shropshire Health Districts: L. WILLIAMS.

†Also acts as Clerk to the Oswestry Borough Health Department.





# North West Shropshire Combined Health Districts

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE,  
8, OSWALD ROAD,  
OSWESTRY,  
SHROPSHIRE.

MAY, 1952.

To the Mayor, Chairmen and Members of the Councils comprising the North West Health Districts of Shropshire.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1951. It is compiled in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 42/41 with certain additions which should be of interest.

The Sanitary Inspectors are responsible for much of the work set out in the report and also for the recording of it, and their co-operation has been of the greatest value, I am also indebted to the Clerk to the Department for much hard work in the preparation of the report. It has been a pleasure to work with the Officials of other departments whose help when needed was always readily given.

I recall with gratitude the kindness and consideration which I have always received from members of the Councils.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. WILSON EVANS.

## **BYELAWS UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.**

The purpose of these byelaws is to secure the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food.

They have been brought into operation since 1949 in the following districts

Ellesmere Urban and Rural Districts.

Oswestry Borough and Rural District

Whitchurch Urban District

as a result considerable improvement has been made in the measures taken to protect food in shops and more active steps are now taken to keep down flies, the results of which are apparent in the shop windows, but there is necessity for a constant activity to maintain good conditions and where necessary to improve them, and keep food handlers alive to the vital need for the strictest attention to cleanliness and care in handling food.

## HOME HELP SERVICE

### OSWESTRY AND WHITCHURCH

I am indebted to Mrs. Martin Wilson, County Organiser of the Shropshire Women's Voluntary Service, under whose administration the service has been so efficiently run, for reports of the work in Oswestry and Whitchurch for the first two quarters of the year, unfortunately it has not been possible for Mrs. Martin Wilson to supply reports for the remainder of the year, for they were of great public health interest as indicating one aspect of the health of the population.

The voluntary workers, Mrs. Barnes in Oswestry and Mrs. Dean in Whitchurch and their helpers, who have given up a great deal of time to this work and carried it out with great success, certainly earn the gratitude of the community for the valuable services they so willingly give.

The Reports show the need of this work and there can be little doubt that there is also a call for this service in the Wem and Ellesmere districts.

#### OSWESTRY BRANCH.

Statistics for period from 1st January to 31st March, 1951.

Number of Home Helps: 1st Jan. to 3rd Feb. 8 full-time, 6 part-time.  
5th Feb. to 31st Mar. 7 „ „ 6 „ „

Total hours worked: 4,634 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Average number of households attended weekly: 32.

New applications from householders:				Maternity	..	..	..	13
				General	..	..	..	11
								—
								24
Re-applications	„	„		Maternity	..	..	..	1
				General	..	..	..	4
								—
								29
Type of cases	..	..	..	Maternity	..	..	..	14
				Old People		..	..	11
				Illness	..	..	..	4
								—
								29
Householders paying full rate			..	Maternity	..	..	..	2
				General	..	..	..	4
								—
								6
„ „ assessed „				Maternity	..	..	..	12
				General	..	..	..	11
								—
								29
								—

Receipts from 1st January to 31st March, 1951: £116/16/5.

IDA L. WILSON,

County Organiser

Shropshire W.V.S.

18th April, 1951.

# OSWESTRY BRANCH.

Statistics for the period from 1st April to 30th June, 1951:—

Number of Home Helps: 1st April to 19 May 6 full-time, 6 part-time.  
 21st May to 26 „ 5 „ 6 „  
 28th May to 9 June 5 „ 7 „  
 11th June to 30 „ 4 „ 7 „

Total number of hours worked: 4,605 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Average number of households attended weekly: 32.

New applications from householders:				Maternity	..	..	..	4
				General	..	..	..	11
								<hr/> 15
Re-applications from householders:				None.				
Type of cases				..	..	..	..	4
				Maternity	..	..	..	4
				Old people	..	..	..	4
				Illness	..	..	..	4
				Post operation		..	..	3
								<hr/> 15
Householders paying full rate				..	Maternity	..	..	3
					General	..	..	5
								<hr/> 8
Assessed cases				..	Maternity	..	..	1
					General	..	..	6
								<hr/> 7

Receipts from 1st April to 30th June, 1951: £147/3/10.

Receipts from 1st January to 30th June, 1951: £2640/1.

Total new applications from householders, 1st Jan. to 30th June, 1951: 39.

Total re-applications from householders, 1st Jan. to 30th June, 1951 5

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IDA L. WILSON,

County Organiser  
Shropshire W.V.S.

16th July, 1951.



WHITCHURCH BRANCH.

Statistics for period 1st January to 31st March, 1951.

Number of Home helps 1st Jan. to 17th Feb. 4 full time, 8 part-time.  
19th Feb. to 31st Mar. 4 „ 9 „

Total hours worked: 4,220.

Average number of households attended weekly: 18.

New applications from householders	Maternity	..	..	..	4
	General	..	..	..	12
					—
					16
Type of cases .. ..	Illness	..	..	..	9
	Old age	..	..	..	3
	Maternity	..	..	..	4
					—
					16
Householders paying full rate ..	General	..	..	..	8
	General	..	..	..	4
Householders paying assessed rate ..	General	..	..	..	4
	Maternity	..	..	..	4
					—
					16
					—

Receipts from 1st January to 31st March, 1951: £119/10/8½.

IDA L. WILSON,

County Organiser

Shropshire W.V.S.

26th April, 1951.

WHITCHURCH BRANCH.

Statistics for the period from 1st April to 30th June, 1951.

Number of Home Helps 1st April to 28th April 4 full-time, 9 part-time.  
30th April to 23rd June 3 „ 9 „  
25th June to 30th June 3 „ 8 „

Total hours worked: 4,537½.

Average number of households attended weekly: 16.

New applications from householders	Maternity	..	..	..	1
	General	..	..	..	2
					—
					3
Type of case .. ..	Maternity	..	..	..	1
	Old People	..	..	..	1
	Post Operation	..	..	..	1
					—
					3
Householders paying assessed rate ..	Maternity	..	..	..	1
	General	..	..	..	2
					—
					3
					—

Receipts from 1st April to 30th June, 1951: £106/18/1½.

Receipts from 1st January to 30th June, 1951: £226/8/10.

IDA L. WILSON,

Shropshire W.V.S.

County Organiser

12th July, 1951.



**NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.**

**Section 47:** No action was necessary under this section but 5 old persons not receiving proper care and attention were voluntarily removed either to Hospital by arrangement with the Bed Bureau or to accommodation at the disposal of the Welfare Department of the County Council with the co-operation of the Welfare Officer.

Ellesmere Rural District .....	1
Oswestry Borough .....	3
Oswestry Rural District .....	1

**NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.**

All the seven Local Authorities of the North West District have authorised the Medical Officer of Health to make the necessary application under this Act.



# ELLESMERE URBAN DISTRICT

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<b>Live Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	16	14	30
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	3	1	4
					19	15	34
Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...							15.9
Corrected Birth Rate ..							19.5
<b>Deaths.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Death Rate per 1,000 population ..					22	14	36
Corrected Death Rate ..							12.7
<b>Still Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	0	0	0
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	0	0	0
					0	0	0
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..							0
<b>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.</b>							
Number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1951 ..							1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births ..							29.4
<b>Number of Women dying in consequence of child birth</b>					..	..	0
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births ..					..	..	0
					Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..					—	—	0

There were considerably fewer births than last year, 34 instead of 45, and the slight decrease in the number of deaths, 36 against 39 last year, gives a natural decrease in the population of 2 in contrast to an increase of 6 last year, despite this the estimate of population given by the Registrar General gives an increase of 44.

Only one child under 1 year of age died, which was 2 fewer than last year, giving an infant mortality figure of 29.4 compared with 66.7 in 1950, and 29.6 for the whole country.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Live Births.					Male.	Female.	Total.
	Legitimate	..	..	..	93	89	182
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	2	5	7
					95	94	189
Birth Rate per 1,000 population							17.3
Corrected Birth Rate							17.8
Deaths.					Male.	Female.	Total.
					81	87	168
Corrected Death Rate							14.9
Death Rate per 1,000 population							15.4
Still Births.					Male.	Female.	Total.
	Legitimate	..	..	..	1	2	3
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	1	0	1
					2	2	4
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population							0.37
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.							
Number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1951					..	..	7
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births					..	..	37.0
Number of Women dying in consequence of child birth							
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births					..	..	0
					..	..	0
					Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)					—	—	0
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)					—	—	0
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years)					—	—	0

There was an increase of births of 20 over last year but with an increase of 16 in deaths the natural increase was only 21, while the estimate of the population given by the Registrar General shows a decrease of 80. There was an increase over the very low number of infant deaths recorded last year, 7 compared with 3, and the infant mortality figure of 37 is higher than that of 29.6 for the country as a whole.



WEM URBAN DISTRICT

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<b>Live Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	22	18	40
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	—	0
					22	18	40
Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...							16.7
Corrected Birth Rate ..							18.2
					Male.	Female.	Total.
<b>Deaths.</b>					17	13	30
Death Rate per 1,000 population ..							12.5
Corrected Death Rate ..							10.3
<b>Still Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	—	—	0
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	—	0
					—	—	0
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..							0
<b>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.</b>							
Number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1951 ..							3
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births ..							75.0
<b>Number of Women dying in consequence of child birth</b>					..	..	0
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births ..					..	..	0
					Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..					—	—	0

There was a decrease of 5 in the number of births on last year's figure and 9 fewer deaths, giving a natural increase in the population of 10. The Registrar General in his estimate of population takes away 55 from last year's figure. The number of children who died under one year of age was about the average, last year there were more, the 3 deaths gives an infant mortality figure of 75.0 compared with 29.6 for the whole country.

## WHITCHURCH URBAN DISTRICT

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<b>Live Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	57	46	103
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	3	2	5
					60	48	108
Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...							15.8
Corrected Birth Rate ..							16.7
					Male.	Female.	Total.
<b>Deaths.</b>					57	49	106
Death Rate per 1,000 population ..							15.5
Corrected Death Rate ..							13.8
<b>Still Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	4	3	7
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
					4	3	7
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..							1.02
<b>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.</b>							
Number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1951 ..					..	..	4
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births ..					..	..	37.0
<b>Number of Women dying in consequence of child birth</b>					..	..	0
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births ..					..	..	0
					Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,," Whooping Cough (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,," Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..					—	—	0

There was a decrease of 5 in the number of births and with an increase of 20 in the number of deaths there was a natural increase of births over deaths of 2, which is a considerably lower figure than usual. The Registrar General estimates a reduction of 80 in the population. There was an increase in number of still births but there were 2 fewer infant deaths than last year.

## ELLESMERE RURAL DISTRICT

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<b>Live Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	73	67	140
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	1	5	6
					74	72	146
Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..							16.6
Corrected Birth Rate ..							23.5
<b>Deaths.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Death Rate per 1,000 population ..					33	39	72
Corrected Death Rate ..							9.3
<b>Still Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	4	—	4
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
					4	—	4
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..							0.45
<b>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.</b>							
Number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1951 ..							3
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births ..							20.5
<b>Number of Women dying in consequence of child birth</b>							
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births ..							0
					Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..					—	—	0

As far as the vital statistics of births and deaths are concerned the indication of the health of the district points to plenty of vigour in the population. There was an increase of 26 in the number of births while other areas are mostly showing a decrease and the corrected birth rate is 23.5 as against 15.5 for the whole country. There was a reduction of 8 in the number of deaths, the corrected death rate being 9.3 as compared with 12.5 for England and Wales, and the infant mortality rate was 20.5 while that for the rest of the country was 29.6 .

The Registrar General estimates an increase in the population of 395.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<b>Live Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	146	130	276
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	6	4	10
					152	134	286
Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...							14.0
Corrected Birth Rate ..							16.9
<b>Deaths.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
					139	92	231
Death Rate per 1,000 population ..							11.3
Corrected Death Rate ..							12.3
<b>Still Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	4	7	11
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
					5	7	12
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population* ..							0.58
<b>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.</b>							
Number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1951 ..							10
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births ..							35.0
<b>Number of women dying in consequence of child birth</b> ..							0
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births ..							
					Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..					—	—	0

There was an increase of 23 in the number of births and a decrease of 5 in the number of deaths compared with last year, the births exceed the deaths by 45. The estimated population shows a decrease of 395. The rates for still births and infant deaths were rather above the average and higher than for the whole country.



## WEM RURAL DISTRICT.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<b>Live Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	93	111	204
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	2	10	12
					95	121	216
Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...							17.5
Corrected Birth Rate ..							19.2
<b>Deaths.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Death Rate per 1,000 population ..					72	71	143
Corrected Death Rate ..							11.5
							11.0
<b>Still Births.</b>					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	6	2	8
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
					6	2	8
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..							0.64
<b>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.</b>							
Number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1951 ..							2
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births ..							9.2
<b>Number of Women dying in consequence of child birth</b>							
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births ..							0
							0
					Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages) ..					—	—	0
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..					—	—	0

There was an increase of 6 births, but an increase of 29 in the number of deaths compared with 1950, but that year the number of deaths was below the average. The corrected birth rate is considerably higher than for the whole country and the death rate is lower.

Only 2 children died under 1 year of age giving an infant mortality figure of deaths of infants to a 1,000 births of 9.2 compared with 29.6 for England and Wales.

BIRTHS; DEATHS; STILL BIRTHS; INFANT MORTALITY; MATERNAL MORTALITY FOR THE SEVEN DISTRICTS COMBINED

DISTRICT.	Total Births	Birth Rate.	Total Deaths.	Death Rate.	Still Births	Still Birth Rate per 1000 population.	Infant Deaths.	Infant Mort.	Maternal Deaths.
ELLESMERE									
U.D.	34	15.9	36	16.8	Nil	Nil	1	29.4	Nil
OSWESTRY									
M.B.	189	17.3	168	15.4	4	0.37	7	37.0	Nil
WEM U.D.	40	16.7	30	12.5	Nil	Nil	3	75.0	Nil
WHITCHURCH									
U.D.	108	15.8	106	15.5	7	1.02	4	37.0	Nil
ALL URBAN DISTRICTS									
ELLESMERE	371	16.7	340	15.3	11	0.49	15	40.4	Nil
R.D.	145	16.6	72	8.2	4	0.45	3	20.5	Nil
OSWESTRY									
R.D.	285	14.0	231	11.3	12	0.58	10	35.0	Nil
WEM R.D.	215	17.5	143	11.5	8	0.64	2	9.2	Nil
ALL RURAL DISTRICTS									
WHOLE OF	648	15.6	446	10.7	24	0.57	15	23.1	Nil
NORTH WEST SHROPSHIRE									
SALOP	1019	16.0	785	12.3	35	0.54	30	29.4	Nil
COUNTY (1950)	—	16.2	—	11.1	—	0.40	—	24.4	9
ENGLAND									
AND	—	15.5	—	12.5	—		—	29.6	—
1951									
WALES						0.36			

## CAUSES OF DEATH

	Ellesmere U.D.	Oswestry M.B.	Wem U.D.	Whitchurch U.D.	Ellesmere R.D.	Oswestry R.D.	Wem R.D.	North West District.t
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	2	3	—	2	—	1	5	13
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	1	5	—	1	2	13	2	24
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	—	2	—	2	—	3	—	7
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	1	1	1	1	3	—	7
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	1	—	3	—	2	—	6
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms ...	4	7	3	7	2	13	15	51
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Diabetes ...	—	1	1	—	—	4	1	7
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	4	23	1	10	7	28	12	85
Coronary disease, Angina	3	20	2	8	9	24	11	77
Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	8	1	5	5	10	4	35
Other heart disease ...	8	44	11	16	9	60	35	183
Other circulatory diseases ...	1	3	—	5	3	12	6	30
Influenza ...	2	6	2	2	2	5	7	26
Pneumonia ...	1	4	1	—	2	4	7	19
Bronchitis ...	1	7	1	11	4	5	12	41
Other diseases of the Resp. System ...	1	2	—	—	—	2	1	6
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum ...	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	4
Gastritis Enteritis (Diarrhoea)	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Nephritis & Nephrosis ...	1	1	—	5	1	2	—	10
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1	1	—	5	3	6	1	17
Pregnancy, C'birth, Abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ...	—	2	—	2	1	—	1	6
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	4	19	3	15	17	22	17	97
Motor vehicle accidents ...	—	2	—	—	1	1	1	5
All other accidents ...	—	2	1	1	2	4	3	13
Suicide ...	—	1	—	1	1	3	1	7
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All causes ...	36	168	30	105	72	231	143	786





## CANCER

District.				Deaths.		Total.	Rate per 1,000 Population.
				M.	F.		
ELLESMERE U.D.	...	...	...	2	3	5	2.34
OSWESTRY M.B.	...	...	...	8	8	16	1.47
WEM U.D.	...	...	...	2	2	4	1.67
WHITCHURCH U.D.	...	...	...	5	9	14	2.05
<b>ALL URBAN DISTRICTS</b>	...	...	...	17	22	39	1.75
ELLESMERE R.D.	...	...	...	2	3	5	0.57
OSWESTRY R.D.	...	...	...	14	20	34	1.66
WEM R.D.	...	...	...	10	7	17	1.37
<b>ALL RURAL DISTRICTS</b>	...	...	...	26	30	56	1.34
WHOLE OF NORTH WEST SHROPSHIRE	...	...	...	43	52	95	1.48
SALOP COUNTY (1950)	..	..	..				1.66
ENGLAND & WALES (1949)	..	..	..				1.87

There was a general decrease in death from cancer in the area, increase was only shown in two districts, Ellesmere Urban District, where there was only one additional case, and Wem Rural District, where the figures were exceptionally low last year and are still lower than any other district except Ellesmere Rural. Much has been written about the importance of early recognition and treatment of the disease and under modern methods of treatment cancer in certain sites are certainly curable if treated early.

It has been stated as a result of some investigations that 80 per cent. of cancer of the stomach are curable but only 23 per cent. are being cured, 95 per cent of breast cancer could be cured but only 47 per cent are being cured. The tragic gap between curable and cured can be blamed on failure of the patient to consult a doctor and sometimes on failure of the doctor to recognise the condition early enough. There is need for more public education.

Smoking is said to be at least a part cause of cancer of the lung, of which there has been an increase in recent years, one authority has stated that after the age of 45 the risk of developing cancer of the lung increases, and it may be fifty times as great among those who smoke twenty-five cigarettes a day as among non-smokers, but where it does develop there is probably already some constitutional tendency to the disease.

NEO-MORTALITY

Districts.				Deaths of infants under 1 month.			Rate per 1,000 births.
				M.	F.	Total.	
ELLESMERE U.D.	...	...	...	1	—	1	29.4
OSWESTRY M.B.	...	...	...	5	1	6	31.7
WEM U.D.	...	...	...	1	—	1	25.0
WHITCHURCH U.D.	...	...	...	—	3	3	27.8
ALL URBAN DISTRICTS	...	...	...	7	4	11	29.6
ELLESMERE R.D.	...	...	...	2	—	2	13.7
OSWESTRY R.D.	...	...	...	4	1	5	17.5
WEM R.D.	...	...	...	1	1	2	9.2
ALL RURAL DISTRICTS	...	...	...	7	2	9	13.9
WHOLE OF NORTH WEST SHROPSHIRE	...	...	...	14	6	20	19.6
SALOP COUNTY (1950)	..	..	..	—	—	—	16.6
ENGLAND AND WALES (1949)	..	..	..	—	—	—	19.3

Although the neo-mortality figures show some decrease in recent years the drop is considerably less than that for children over 4 weeks than under one year. The advance in knowledge of the care and feeding of infants and the use of that knowledge by many mothers has had its effect in reducing the number of deaths of infants after they have passed the fourth week of life; but the chance of survival during these early weeks, which depends to so great an extent on the health and nutrition of the mother before the baby is born has not increased to the same extent. This is shown by the figures for two 6-yearly periods 1940—1945 and 1946—1951. In the first period one half of the babies who died during the first year of life were under one month, in the second two-thirds of the deaths were under one month.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1951.

ELLESMERE URBAN DISTRICT

Ages.		Scarlet Fever.		Measles.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	...	—	—	—	—
1—	...	—	—	—	—
3—	...	1	—	—	—
5—	...	—	1	—	—
10—	...	—	—	—	—
15—	...	—	—	—	—
25—	...	—	—	—	—
45—	...	—	—	—	—
65 & over	...	—	—	—	—
Not known	...	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	1	1	—	—

# OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Ages.	Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Measles.		Pneumonia.		Para-Typhoid Fever.		Menin-gococcal Infection.		Puerperal Pyrexia.		Ophthalmia Neon-atorum.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—	—	—	1	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
3—	—	—	3	3	7	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	4	1	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
25—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not known	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	1	8	7	16	6	16	10	2	—	1	—	3	—	1	—

The two cases of Para-typhoid were two children in one family who undoubtedly were infected while on holiday at a seaside resort where there were other cases.

WEM URBAN DISTRICT

Ages.	Whooping Cough.		Measles.		Pneumonia.		Dysentery.		Erysipelas.		Meningo- coccal Infection.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—	—	2	—	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
3—	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—	2	5	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Not known	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	4	8	2	2	1	2	8	5	2	—	1	—



# WHITCHURCH URBAN DISTRICT

Ages.	Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Polionyelitis Non-paralytic.		Measles.		Pneumonia.		Dysentery.		Erysipelas.		Puerperal Pyrexia.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0—	—	1	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	F.
1—	1	1	1	8	—	—	10	9	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
3—	—	—	6	8	—	—	16	15	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
5—	1	2	16	9	—	—	26	37	1	1	5	2	—	—	—
10—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	1	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	—	4	—	—
Not known	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	2	6	25	26	1	—	55	64	7	7	10	9	4	1	2

The cases of Dysentery were the continuation of the outbreak of the last months of 1950.

ELLESMERE RURAL DISTRICT

Ages.	Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Poliomyelitis Paralytic.		Measles.		Pneumonia.		Dysentery.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
3—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	—	—	1	2
5—	—	2	1	—	—	—	13	19	—	—	—	—
10—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	1	—
15—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
25—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Not known	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	2	1	1	1	—	28	26	1	—	4	3

# OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

Ages.	Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Poliomyelitis Paralytic.		Measles.		Pneumonia.		Dysentery.		Erysipelas.		Menin- gococcal Infection.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	3	2	—	1	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1
1—	—	—	5	9	—	11	13	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
3—	—	—	7	7	—	16	17	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—	2	—	10	18	—	32	49	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10—	1	—	1	1	—	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	12	1	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
25—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Not known	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	15	1	26	37	—	69	89	12	9	6	8	1	1	—	—	1

## WEM RURAL DISTRICT

Ages.		Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Paralytic.		Polio myelitis. Non-paralytic.		Measles.		Pneumonia.		Dysentery.		Menin- gococcal Infection.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	7	5	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	11	11	—	—	—	—	10	19	—	—	1	1	—	—
3—	—	—	—	12	6	—	—	—	—	14	10	1	—	2	—	—	—
5—	—	1	—	21	25	—	—	—	—	24	22	2	—	3	2	—	—
10—	—	1	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	—
25—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—
Not known	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	2	—	53	57	1	—	1	—	54	57	10	7	12	6	—	1



# INFECTIOUS DISEASE TABLE FOR THE COMBINED DISTRICTS, 1951.

[illegible]

**MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE FOR THE COMBINED DISTRICTS.  
1951.**

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Scarlet Fever	...	3	3	2	9	2	1	—	—	2	2	3
Whooping Cough	...	58	44	31	23	16	13	6	—	4	5	11
Measles	...	140	120	39	2	10	24	16	1	—	2	3
Pneumonia	...	23	3	3	4	—	1	1	1	4	2	6
Dysentery	...	13	16	2	5	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
Erysipelas	...	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
Para-typhoid Fever B.	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—

### NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Measles and Whooping Cough reached very high figures throughout the Country during the year and some of your districts didn't escape. Those areas where Whooping Cough cases were considerable were Whitchurch, the Rural Districts of Oswestry and Wem, the same districts had most of the victims of Measles with the addition of Ellesmere Rural District. 53 per cent. of the cases of Whooping Cough were under school age and 40 per cent. of the cases of Measles, 42 per cent. of the Whooping Cough occurred between 5 and 10 years and 50 per cent. of the Measles. Throughout the districts the percentage of the child population under 10 years attacked with Measles was 6.5 per cent. which is about the usual for outbreaks of this disease while 4 per cent. of children had Whooping Cough.

The last outbreak, though of considerably smaller dimensions of these diseases in the districts affected was in 1948 except in the Ellesmere Rural District which has had no significant number since 1943.

The picture of Infectious Disease has shown a remarkable change over the past 30 years except in the case of Diphtheria which has practically been eliminated by Immunisation in the last 10 years, there has not been much evidence of a lessening of the incidence of such diseases as Scarlet Fever, Measles and Whooping Cough, but the diminished severity of all these diseases as shown by the number of deaths is very evident from the graphs shown on the opposite page. The most dramatic drop is in the case of Diphtheria, where the number of deaths fell from 47 in the ten year period ending 1939 to 5 in a similar period ending in 1949; this was accompanied by an equally spectacular fall in the number of cases, 894 for the ten year period ending 1939 and 89 for the following period ending 1949, the low mortality in the case of Diphtheria is of course due to the fewer cases of the disease, there is no evidence that should a falling off of the number of children to be immunised take place causing its return to seek victims amongst the children that it would prove to be less of a killing disease, the only way to make sure of this is to maintain a sufficient proportion of children protected against it by immunisation. In the other three diseases there is no similar fall in the number of cases, the reduction in mortality is due to a lessening in their severity; Measles and Whooping Cough have only been notifiable since 1939 so there is no exact figure of their previous incidence, but notifications from schools before that date give sufficient indication that there is certainly no reduction in their incidence, 4,999 cases of Measles and 1,261 cases of Whooping Cough since 1939 don't suggest a falling off in the number of cases of these diseases, but the mortality figures give a very different picture, the lowering of the mortality in these diseases was manifest earlier than in the case of Diphtheria, for while the latter disease showed a considerable increase in deaths in the middle of the 3 ten year periods, Measles and Whooping Cough were declining during 1930—1939; Measles deaths were reduced from 35 in 1920—1929 to 15 in 1940—1949, while the number of deaths from Whooping Cough fell from 50 to 14 in the same period. It is fortunate that the severity of Whooping Cough should fall for it is the most deadly of the infectious diseases, during the last 10 years its case mortality rate was nearly five times that of Measles, 15.5 for whooping cough and 3.8 for measles.

The greater deadliness of Whooping Cough is due to the fact that babies do not seem to be born with an immunity against this disease as in the case of the others, so that it attacks more children under 1 year of age.

The effect of immunisation for protection against Whooping Cough has not

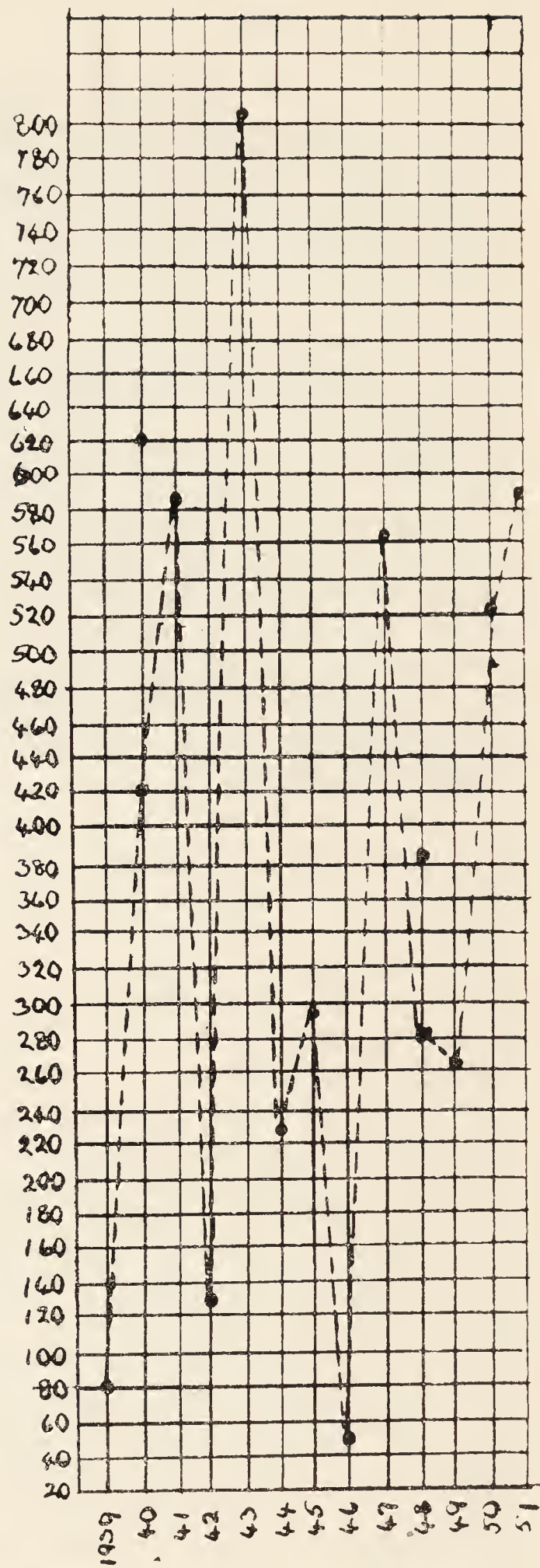


shown any appreciable result in the incidence of the disease, this is possibly due to the comparatively few numbers that have been immunised and to the fact that many children are immunised at the same time as against Diphtheria generally after they are a year old, while for the reasons previously stated it would probably be advisable to immunise babies against Whooping Cough soon after birth.

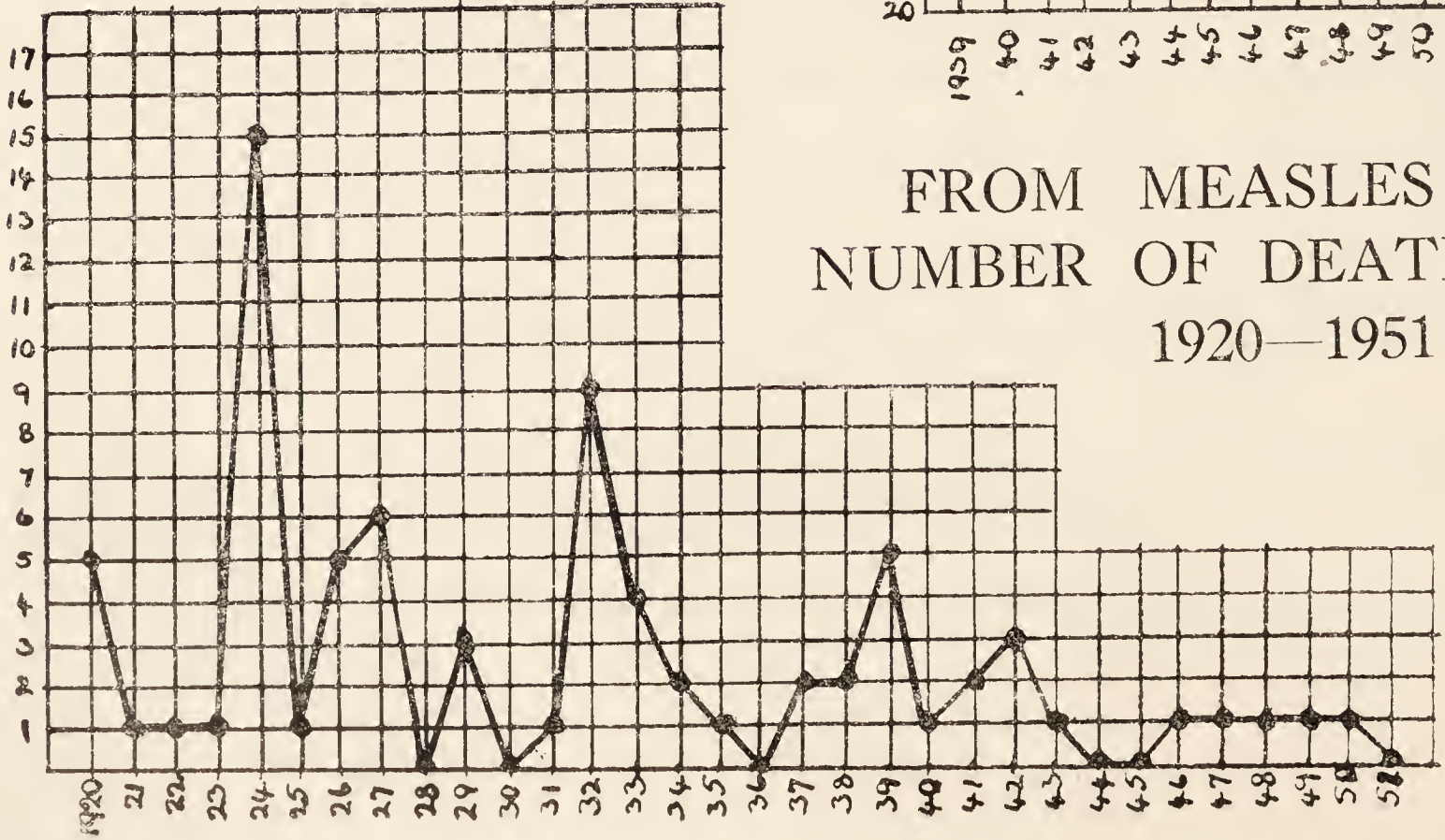
The Medical Research Council has been investigating the question of immunisation against Whooping Cough since 1942 and published a report of its findings during 1951. It was found that Whooping Cough vaccines may vary considerably in their protective property, it is therefore obviously important that vaccines of high potency should be used and further trials are being carried out to establish the best method of preparation. During the trials it was found that immunisation gave a reduction in the incidence of 78 per cent. and those vaccinated children who did develop the disease had on the average a less severe attack and of shorter duration. Although Vaccination against Whooping Cough does not yet give the assurance of protection as is the case for Diphtheria, but the results show that it is sufficiently effective as to make its use desirable in very young children among whom Whooping Cough is the infectious disease with the highest mortality.



NUMBER  
OF  
CASES  
OF  
MEASLES  
YEARLY — 1939 — 1951

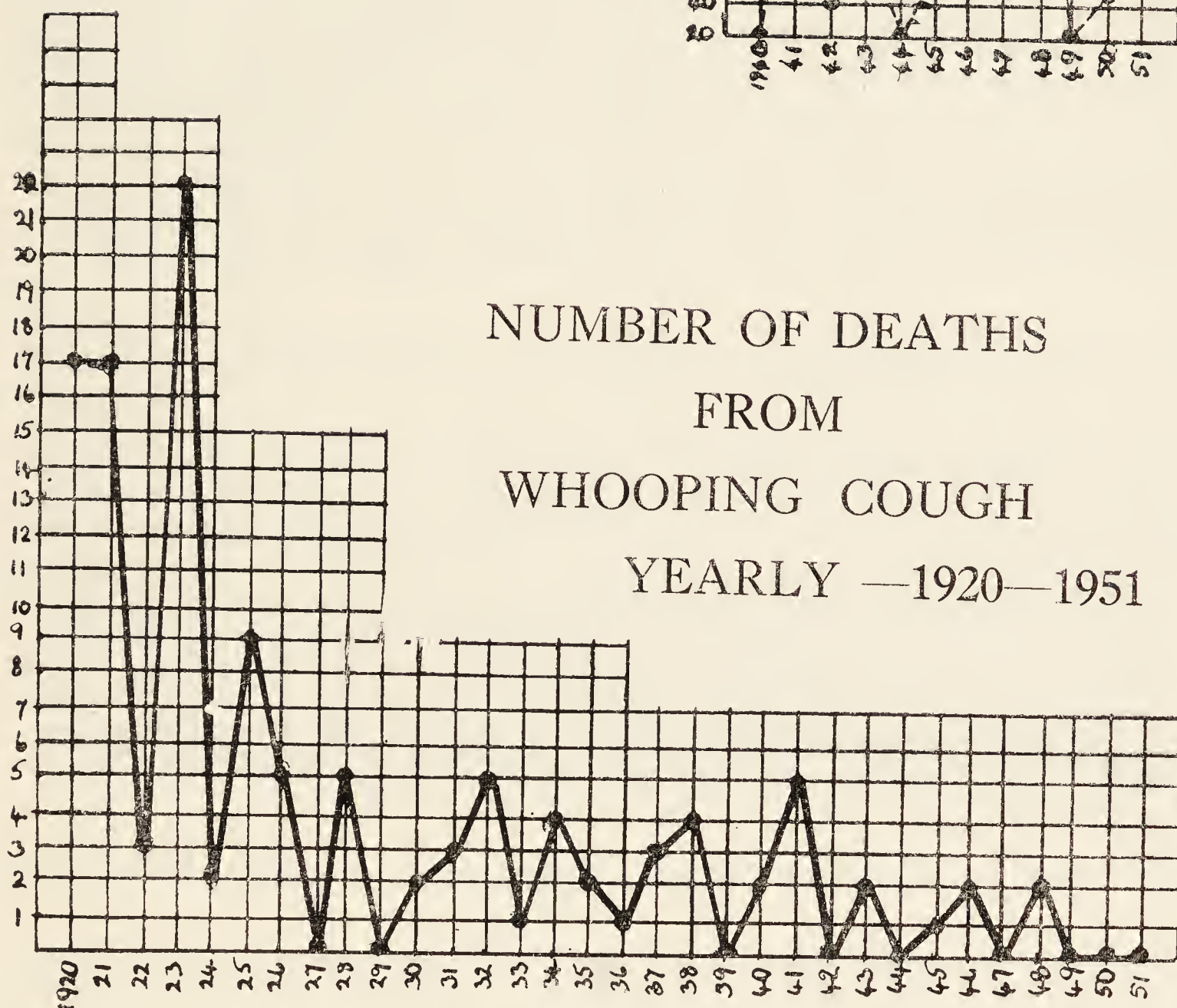
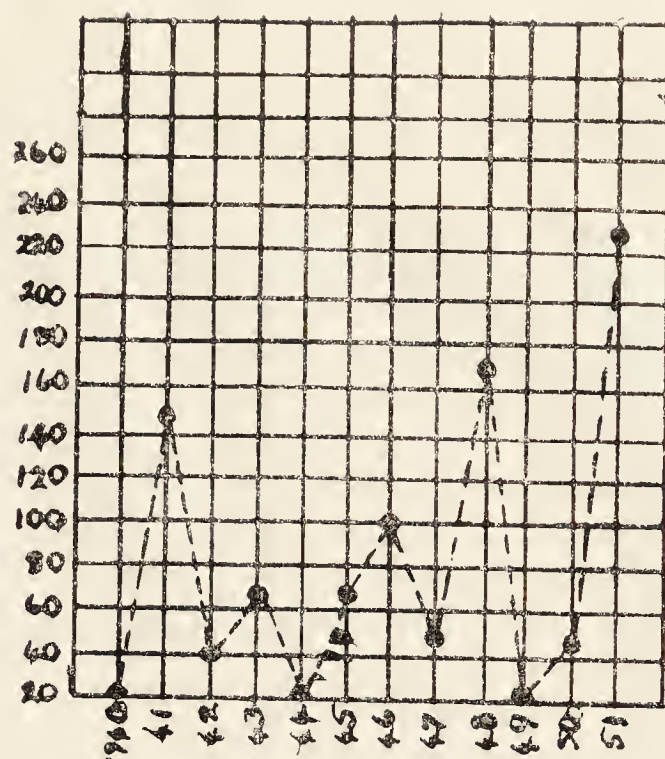


FROM MEASLES  
NUMBER OF DEATHS  
1920—1951





# NUMBER OF CASES OF WHOOPIING COUGH YEARLY — 1940—1952



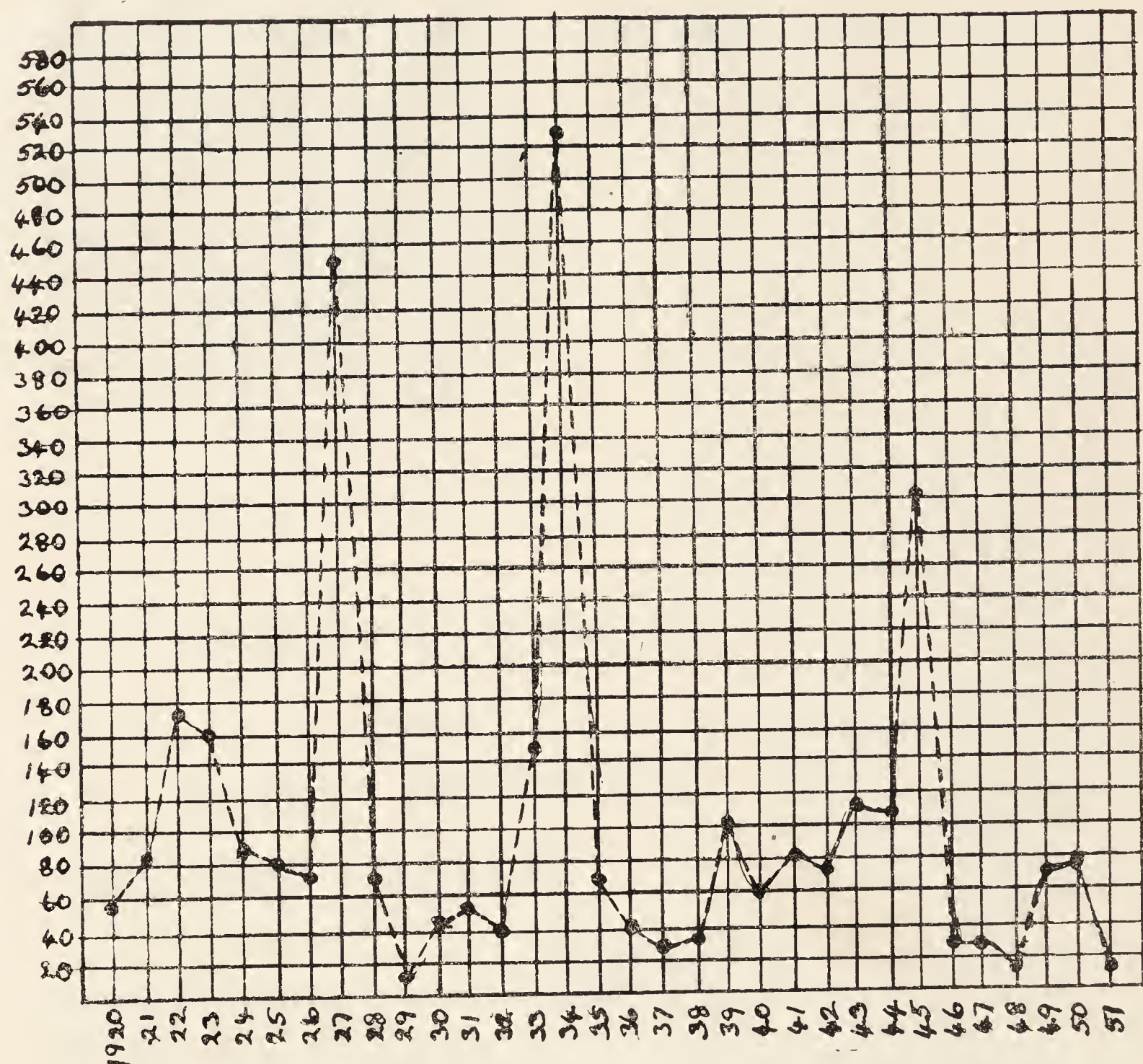
## NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM WHOOPIING COUGH YEARLY — 1920—1951

### WHOOPIING COUGH IMMUNISATION

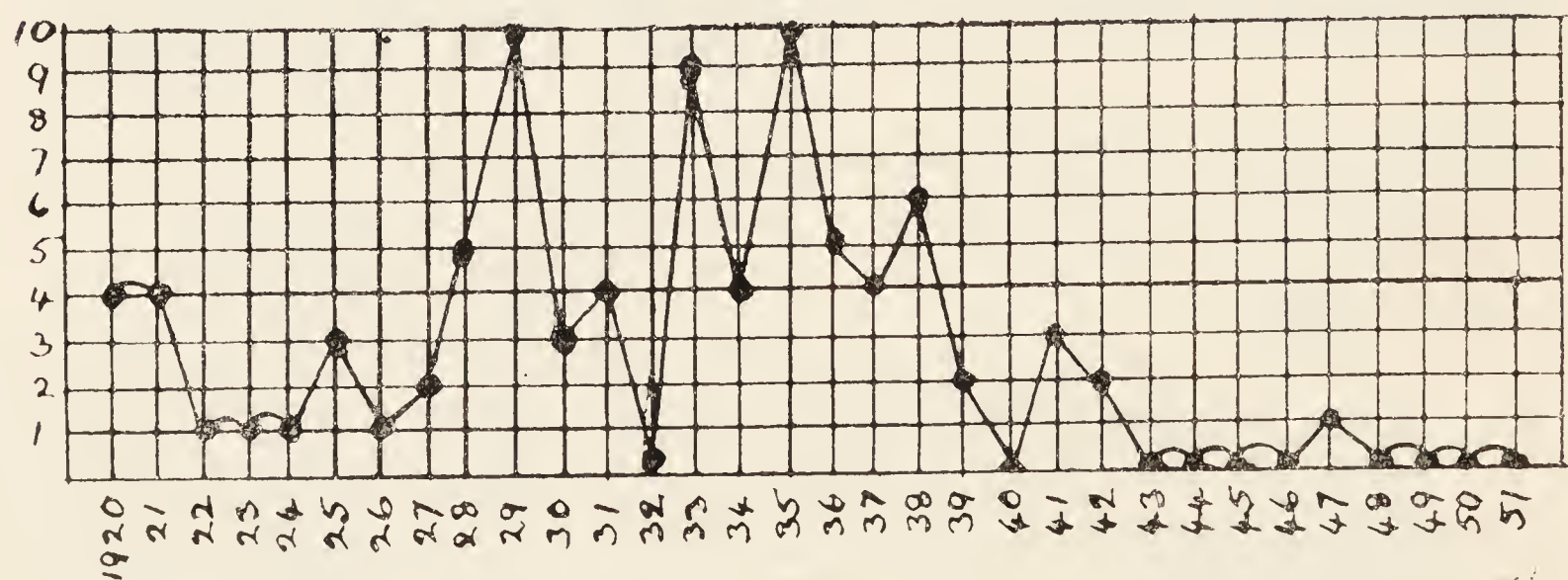
District.						Percentage of Children who had been immunised against Whooping Cough on 31st December, 1951.	
						Under 5 years of age.	Aged 5 to 14 years.
Ellesmere Urban	...	...	...	...	...	20.2	2.40
Oswestry Borough	...	...	...	...	...	31.8	5.1
Wem Urban	...	...	...	...	...	53.0	11.0
Whitchurch Urban	...	...	...	...	...	9.7	0.43
All Urban Districts	...	...	...	...	...	26.0	4.1
Ellesmere Rural	...	...	...	...	...	14.8	2.01
Oswestry Rural	...	...	...	...	...	19.9	2.9
Wem Rural	...	...	...	...	...	17.4	0.75
All Rural Districts	...	...	...	...	...	18.1	4.0
North West Shropshire Districts	...	...	...	...	...	21.6	4.03



# Number of Cases of Scarlet Fever. Yearly 1920—51

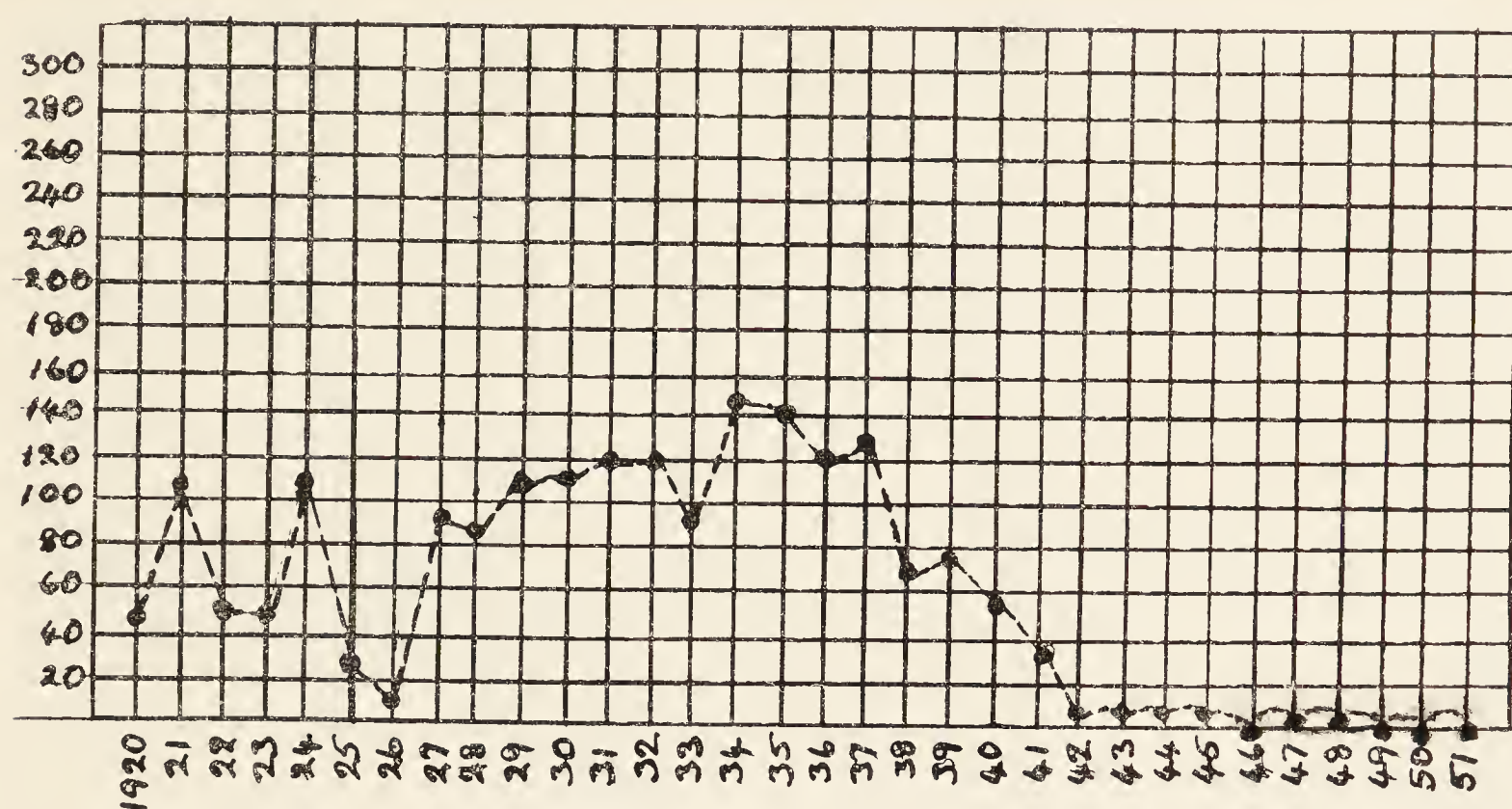


## Number of Deaths from Diphtheria Yearly 1920—51

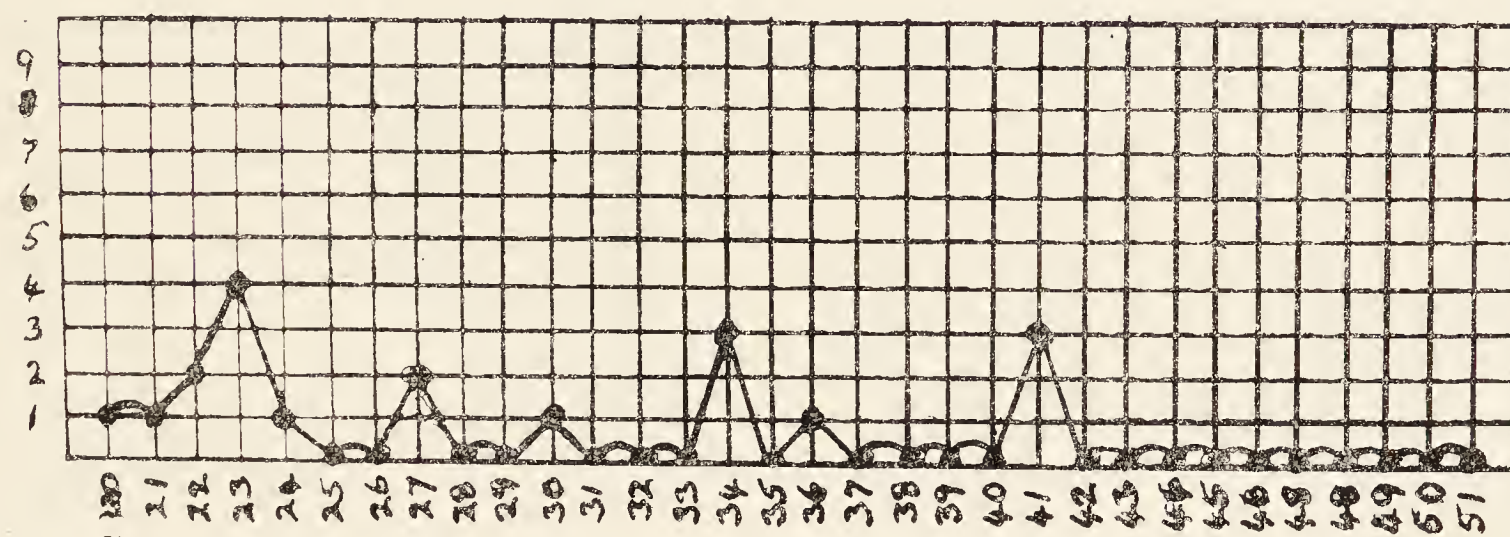




# Number of Cases of Diphtheria Yearly 1920—51



# Number of Deaths from Scarlet Fever Yearly 1920—51



# WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION 1951.

Districts.	Total number of children immunised during the year.	Number of cases in the year.	Immunised.	Not Immunised.
Ellesmere Urban District .. ..	8	—	—	—
Oswestry Municipal Borough .. ..	75	15	3	12
Wem Urban District .. ..	39	12	2	10
Whitchurch Urban District .. ..	23	51	1	50
All Urban Districts .. ..	145	78	6	72
Ellesmere Rural District .. ..	22	2	—	2
Oswestry Rural District .. ..	107	63	6	57
Wem Rural District .. ..	78	110	5	105
All Rural Districts .. ..	207	175	11	164
Whole of North West Shropshire .. ..	352	253	17	236

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. CHILDREN IMMUNISED DURING 1951.

District.	No. Immunised during 1951.			No of Children who received reinforcing injections during 1951.		Percentage of children Immunised at 31st December, 1951.	
	Under 5.	5—14	Total.			Under 5.	5—14
ELLESMERE URBAN .. ..	34	1	35	28		54.5	96.6
ELLESMERE RURAL .. ..	63	36	99	115		46.2	77.04
OSWESTRY BOROUGH .. ..	143	21	164	134		58.9	98.9
OSWESTRY RURAL .. ..	205	33	238	230		49.7	93.6
WEM URBAN ... ..	38	3	41	21		60.0	90.5
WEM RURAL ... ..	175	26	201	145		50.4	70.9
WHITCHURCH URBAN .. ..	72	8	80	96		44.9	69.6

# VACCINATION CHILDREN VACCINATED DURING 1951

District.	Approx. percentage of children under 1 vaccinated.	No. Vaccinated during 1951.			Total.	Re- Vaccination.
		Under 1.	1—4	5—14		
ELLESMERE URBAN	47%	16	6	2	25	3
ELLESMERE RURAL	24%	35	19	1	59	18
OSWESTRY BOROUGH	17%	32	38	4	82	16
OSWESTRY RURAL	15%	42	44	3	134	170
WEM URBAN	70%	28	9	3	41	17
WEM RURAL	37%	81	45	13	146	62
WHITCHURCH URBAN	19%	21	18	4	46	54
TOTALS		255	179	30	533	340

Percentage in whole county 23% for 1950.



### **POLIOMYELITIS.**

There was a big reduction in the number of cases of Poliomyelitis in the Country for the year, 3,093 as compared with 8,654 the previous year, the lowest figure since 1948. There were five cases in the whole district, two in the Rural District of Wem, one in each of the Rural Districts of Ellesmere and Oswestry and one in Whitchurch. Two of these were non-paralytic. One baby of 11 months was affected, the ages of the others were 15, 22, 32 and 36, one was a service case at an army camp. Of the four civilian cases, two were non-paralytic and two were paralytic, one of the latter although she had symptoms of extensive involvement of the nervous system and diagnosis was delayed for two weeks had very little incapacity nine months afterwards; the other case, a child of 11 months, had some paralysis in the right arm and was under treatment twelve months later.

### **RESEARCH ON POLIOMYELITIS—VIROLOGICAL INVESTIGATION.**

During the year an investigation was carried out in Whitchurch, this was part of an investigation carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service throughout England and Wales; swabs of the sewage at various parts of the Town were taken on two occasions, one in April, the other in June and sent for identification of the virus to the Central Health Laboratory. One town and one village in this County were chosen for the investigation where there had been one or more cases of Poliomyelitis in 1950, and one town and one village where there had been no case during the three years prior to 1950, Whitchurch was chosen as one of the latter.

Information was received that virus was not isolated from any of the swabs in the first series, the result of the second has not yet been received.

**TUBERCULOSIS**  
**ELLESMERE URBAN DISTRICT.**  
**NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1951.**

				Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
				M.	F.	M	F.	M.	F.
Civilian Cases	...	...	...	1	2	1	—	2	2
Service Cases	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transfers	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	...	...	1	2	1	—	2	2
Cured	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Left district	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	...	...	...	2	1	—	—	2	1

Number of cases on Register at end of 1951.

Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	4	2	1	3	5

No of Primary Notifications in 1951—4.

**OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH.**  
**NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1951.**

				Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
				M.	F.	M	F.	M.	F.
Civilian Cases	...	...	...	5	1	—	1	5	2
Service Cases	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transfers	...	...	...	3	1	1	—	4	1
TOTALS	...	...	...	8	2	1	1	9	3
Cured	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	1
Left district	...	...	...	1	3	—	—	1	3
Deaths	...	...	...	4	—	—	—	4	—

Number of cases on Register at end of 1951.

Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
46	21	4	4	50	25

No. of Primary Notifications in 1951—7.

Twenty years ago the Town's record for Tuberculosis was giving cause for considerable concern. In 1930 the County Medical Officer of Health referred in his annual report to the fact that the death rate in Oswestry for cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 45 per cent. higher than for all Urban Districts in the County, and one of the most impressive pictures of the health progress in Oswestry is that to-day there has been so marked a decrease in the disease that during the four years ending 1950 on only one occasion did the rate for Oswestry exceed that of the County, for the other three years it was considerably less. Although in recent years there has been a general decrease in the Country, the decrease has not been universal throughout Shropshire, in some districts indeed there has been a tendency towards higher figures so that instead of being the

black spot for tuberculosis in the County which was its unenviable position twenty years ago, Oswestry is well towards becoming a bright one.

Twenty years ago the average number of cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis to be notified in the year was 16, sometimes there were over 20 cases in the year, for the last 10 years the annual average has been just over 7.

**WEM URBAN DISTRICT.**  
**NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1951.**

				Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian Cases	...	...	...	—	—	1	1	1	1
Service Cases	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transfers	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	...	...	...	1	—	1	1	2	1
Cured	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Left district	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	1

Number of cases on Register at end of 1951.

Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
3	2	1	1	4	3

No. of Primary Notifications in 1951—2.

**WHITCHURCH URBAN DISTRICT**  
**NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1951.**

				Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian Cases	...	...	...	1	2	1	—	2	2
Service Cases	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transfers	...	...	...	2	1	—	—	2	1
TOTALS	...	...	...	3	3	1	—	4	3
Cured	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Left district	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—
Deaths	...	...	...	1	1	—	—	1	1

Number of cases on Register at end of 1951.

Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
13	7	6	3	19	10

No. of Primary Notifications in 1951—4.



ELLESMERE RURAL DISTRICT.  
NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1951.

				Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian Cases	...	...	...	3	1	1	1	4	2
Service Cases	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transfers	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	...	...	...	4	1	1	1	5	2
Cured	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—
Left district	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Number of cases on Register at end of 1951.

Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
14	10	4	2	18	12

No. of Primary Notifications in 1951—6.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT.  
NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1951.

				Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian Cases	...	...	...	4	1	3	1	7	2
Service Cases	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transfers	...	...	...	—	2	—	—	—	2
TOTALS	...	...	...	4	3	3	1	7	4
Cured	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	1
Left district	...	...	...	2	2	—	—	2	2
Deaths	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Number of cases on Register at end of 1951.

Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
31	20	8	5	39	25

No. of Primary Notifications in 1951—9.



WEM RURAL DISTRICT  
NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1951.

				Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian Cases	...	...	...	2	1	3	1	5	2
Service Cases	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transfers	...	...	...	6	2	—	—	6	2
TOTALS	...	...	...	8	3	3	1	11	4
Cured	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—
Left district	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	1
Deaths	...	...	...	3†1	2	—	—	3†1	2

Number of cases on Register at end of 1951.

Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
28	17	6	6	34	23

No. of Primary Noifications in 1951—7.

# TUBERCULOSIS

TABLE SHOWING PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE COMBINED DISTRICTS  
FOR THE YEAR 1951.

	Respiratory.		Total.	Non-Respiratory.		Total.	Total of all Notifications.
	M.	F.		M.	F.		
ELLESMERE U.D. ...	1	2	3	1	—	1	4
OSWESTRY M.B. ...	5	1	6	—	1	1	7
WEM U.D. ...	—	—	—	1	1	2	2
WHITCHURCH U.D. ...	1	2	3	1	—	1	4
<b>ALL URBAN DISTRICTS</b> ...	7	5	12	3	2	5	17
ELLESMERE R.D. ...	3	1	4	1	1	2	6
OSWESTRY R.D. ...	4	1	5	3	1	4	9
WEM R.D. ...	2	1	3	3	1	4	7
<b>ALL RURAL DISTRICTS</b> ...	9	3	12	7	3	10	22
<b>WHOLE OF NORTH WEST SHROPSHIRE</b>	16	8	24	10	5	15	39

By the use of the new type of drug, a form of Tuberculosis which though still a dangerous disease, has been greatly reduced in its fatality in recent years; In Tuberculosis Meningitis previous to the use of Streptomycin the mortality was almost 100 per cent., in this district in the years 1945 to 1949 there were 15 cases, 13 of whom died. In 1950 and 1951 there were 4 cases and one died. In some other countries where protection by B.C.G. inoculation has been extensively used, cases of this disease have been almost completely eliminated and a bolder use of this method of prevention in this country would probably have the same effect here

There always seems to be an unfortunate lag between a discovery and its application B.G.G. vaccination against Tuberculosis was discovered 30 years ago and it is still being very tentatively used Diphtheria Immunisation was also discovered over 30 years, but it was not until 1940 that it was taken up strongly by the highest authorities; previous to that, local authorities were rather discouraged from advocating it; since it has been used, the yearly average of 2,800 deaths in England and Wales, between 1930 and 1940 was reduced to 34 in 1951, and 55,000 yearly average cases in that period has been reduced to 699

# ELLESMERE URBAN DISTRICT

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The bulk supply of water for domestic and trade purposes is taken from the Liverpool Corporation's Vyrnwy Aqueduct at the Trench Valve House Station through a 4" meter.

The main feeding the town is 8" in diameter, whilst the distributing mains of the town are 4" and 3". All mains are of cast iron.

Tapping of new services is done under pressure, avoiding the necessity for shutting off the supply during connection periods, keeping the main fully charged at all times, and avoiding the dropping of hydrant balls. Main shut-offs are only necessary in the case of main fractures or new distributing main connections.

The majority of the valves fail to operate satisfactorily, some fail completely. One valve, 3", which controls the Milk Factory main has been renewed, and all valves on the housing scheme extensions are new and in good operative condition.

The Fire Hydrant reconstruction scheme to convert all hydrants to the Home Office standard now adopted is under consideration by the Fire Brigade Authorities. This conversion consists of changing all ball type, bayonet lug hydrants to valve screw-down types, with the standard London round thread outlets. This type of hydrant is a vast improvement on the ball type, preventing the ingress of fouled water into the mains during main shut-off periods, and is also more positive in action to prevent waste when charging up after shut-offs. This is a considerable improvement from a Public Health aspect.

The area of supply covers the whole area of the Urban District, no part of the district being unserved by the mains. In addition, a large area of the Ellesmere Rural District is also supplied from the Urban Council mains through meters.

The Urban consumers are supplied through meters for trade purposes only, all domestic consumers being supplied direct without meter.

The supply of water is consistently good in quality, quantity and pressure.

In view of the present upward trend in piped water supplies to dairy farms, it will be essential to give very careful consideration to all applications for further supplies outside your area, as not only are these demands on water supply systems likely to increase considerably, but your own area demands are also likely to increase and these conditions will inevitably call for a consideration of the size of the mains meter and could also tax the distributing mains beyond their capacity, and result in pressure drops and inability to meet the demand made upon them.

Number of houses supplied direct from mains .....	690
Number of houses supplied from standpipes .....	6
Number of houses put on mains during year	
New houses .....	4
Existing houses .....	3

### Table of Consumption of Water.

			1950.		1951.
Valve House Mains Meter ...	...	...	67,091,000	Galls.	63,622,000
Urban Domestic and Non-meter ..	..	..	27,836,000	„	35,374,000
„ Meter (Trade) Supplies ..	..	..	16,590,000	„	10,860,000
Rural Meter Supplies ..	..	..	22,665,000	„	17,388,000



### **DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.**

The only parts of the district not sewered are beyond connection to the sewers, and are very small in extent.

The greater part of the district is sewered to the Wharf Meadow works. This is a partially separate system, and all sewage received is pumped from the screening part of the works to the disposal section.

The only part of the sewage received at this disposal works by gravity is from the new school on Oswestry Road, the sewage first passing through its own system of screening chambers.

The system from Elson and part of the town area is entirely by gravity, to the Old Newnes Brook works. This works is totally inadequate to deal with the flow delivered to it, whilst it is only designed as a single unit system which renders cleaning difficult and impracticable, conditions which will grow progressively worse. Reconstruction is the only remedy.

A report was made to the Council on the inadequacy of these works during the year and it is hoped that it will be possible for steps to be taken to improve them in the near future.

A new works for 52 new Council houses is on the point of completion and being put into service. This is a gravity system to the works, the sewage being then raised for final treatment and sludging, by means of pumps.

The Mereside sewage is pumped to the Church Street manhole, and is dealt with at the Wharf Meadow works, while the sewage from Oteley Camp in the Ellesmere Rural Area is received into the same sewer, and also treated at the Wharf Works.

During the year new houses put on the sewers was 4, and existing houses found connected to culverts and changed over on to the soil sewers were 6.

### **PUBLIC LAVATORIES.**

During the year there has been no change in the public lavatory accommodation. The Mereside, Market Hall and Brownlow yard accommodation remain all as in last year's report.

Plans for the proposed new accommodation in Cross Street, together with specification of works were put out for tender, but in view of the high figures quoted, the Council decided not to proceed with the project for the present.

### **HOUSING.**

The housing programme of the Council continued, a contract for a further 36 houses having been entered into. The project is now proceeding, and when completed there will be 131 Council houses in the post war schemes, making a total of 189 owned by the Council.

In the housing sphere, as well as in the water and sewage departments, difficulty in progress is badly hampered by difficulty in obtaining supplies of some essential products at the present time.

The number of houses built, completed and tenanted since the war, for a population of approximately 2,200 compares very favourably with any other authority, especially having regard to the fact that no assistance has been given by such bodies as Housing or kindred associations in the building of houses to let in the district.



Number of houses inspected for minor repairs .....	80
Number of houses inspected for dirty conditions .....	2
Number of houses requiring minor repairs .....	79
Number of houses repaired .....	74
Number of houses outstanding for repair .....	5
New houses—Council .....	0
New houses—Private .....	0
Number of Council houses found to be overcrowded .....	0
Number of Private houses found to be overcrowded .....	4
Number of Council houses overcrowding remedied .....	0
Number of Private houses overcrowding remedied .....	0

### DISINFECTIONS.

Disinfections carried out during the year total 6. Of this total 4 were following diseases and 2 were for bugs. Methods used all as last year's report.

### FOODS AND FOOD PREPARING PLACES.

All meat supplies are still delivered by road from Oswestry stores of the Ministry of Food, under conditions as favourably reported in last year's report.

Foods condemned during the year were:—

Beef—decomposing and bone taint: 125 lbs.

Beef kidney and kidney fat—pus deposits: 1.

Pork—decomposing: 21½ lbs.

Tinned cooked hams—6 tins, decomposing: 67 lbs.

Canned beef—1 tin, decomposing: 6 lbs.

Luncheon Meat, decomposing: 16 tins.

Canned Fish, decomposing: 19 tins.

Canned Vegetables and Fruits, decomposing and damaged: 121 tins.

Mustard cream in glass containers, out of condition: 9 jars.

Coffee in glass containers, out of condition: 2 jars.

Pickles in glass containers, out of condition: 2 jars.

### BAKEHOUSES.

Number in District .....

8

Number not in use .....

2

Number of inspections .....

25

General conditions were found to be satisfactory and no cause for complaint was found.

### FRIED FISH SHOPS.

These remain as in last year's report. While no cause for complaint was found on visits, there is considerable room for improvement in the littering of streets adjacent to the shops, with soiled fish and chip papers.

Number of fried fish shops in district .....

2

Number of visits .....

7

The road on which one shop is situate was resurfaced during the year and very considerably renders the keeping clean and tidy of the outside premises much easier.

### CAFES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS.

Hotels .....	4
Cafes and Restaurants other than Hotels .....	8
Guest Houses .....	2
Visits .....	15

All are generally well conducted and kept clean. Hot and cold water is available in all cases.

### ICE CREAM.

Ice Cream Manufacturers .....	0
Ice Cream Retailers .....	7

In all cases only wrapped ice cream is sold except in the case of some sold from vehicles stopping in the town.

Samples taken (all proved Grade 1) .....	8
--	---

### MILK.

Number of samples taken from Hospital Supply Total .....	7
Number of samples taken for presence of Tubercle Bacilli .....	4
Number of samples taken found negative .....	4
Number of samples taken for keeping quality (Methylene Blue Test) .....	3
Number of samples taken found satisfactory .....	3

### REFUSE DISPOSAL.

District refuse scavenging is still contracted out. The work is efficiently done by the Contractor's own vehicles.

### NUISANCE COMPLAINTS.

Complaints received .....	12
Complaints remedied .....	12

These complaints included 4 in respect of keeping pigs, 3 concerning gypsy encampments, 2 in respect of cellar flooding and 3 to dampness and bad conditions due to bad roofs.

### SMOKE.

Number of observations .....	3
Number of complaints .....	2
Number of complaints remedied .....	2

All power boilers are mechanically stoked, and three upright boilers are hand fired. The complaints arose in connection with the hand fired boilers.

### INSECT AND VERMIN CONTROL.

One disinfestation for bugs has been done to complete the house referred to in last year's report, the affairs of the deceased woman having been cleared

after long delay. The house has also been stripped and re-decorated after a thorough disinfection and cleansing.

On four occasions the refuse tip has been sprayed with D.D.T. preparations to control flies.

The greater area of the original refuse tip has been covered with soil effecting a considerable improvement, this should reduce trouble from rats and flies and also fires.

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT.

In the carrying out of this work the strict requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries are adhered to, and to carry out this work after survey a part time Pest Destruction Officer is employed.

Number of visits to private houses .....	49
Number of treatments to private houses .....	9
Number of visits to business premises .....	141
Number of treatments to business premises .....	10
Number of visits to farms .....	4
Number of treatments to farms .....	1
Sewage works and sewers—visits and treatments .....	119
Refuse tips—visits and treatments .....	147
Total number of surveys and treatment visits .....	459

### MORTUARY.

The mortuary has been used 5 times during the year, 2 occasions by the Urban Council and 3 occasions by the Ellesmere Rural Council.

Disinfection by spraying and washing of cover sheets is carried out after use on each occasion.



FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ELLESMERE.

Prescribed particulars of the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	9	27	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	9	27	—	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three, or more “cases.”)

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	2	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	4	—	—	—	—

# OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER SUPPLY.

I am indebted to the Water Engineer for the following notes on water supply, etc.

Rainfall at Mount Road Reservoirs for the year ending 31/12/51 ..... 42.97 ins.  
Consumption for the year ..... 157,433,200 galls.

(1) Number of dwelling houses supplied from public water:—

(2) Number of population supplied from public mains:—

(a) direct to houses (1) .....	3,133
(2) .....	10,900
(b) by means of stand pipes (1) .....	41
(2) .....	148

Nature of supplies to remaining houses: Wells.

There are isolated dwellings on the outskirts of the town some considerable distance from the mains, without a piped water supply.

The water has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity and the supply is now corrected for plumbo solvency.

The Corporation gathering grounds and impounding reservoir at Penygwely, together with the storage reservoirs at Mount Road can provide a sufficient supply for the normal requirements of the town, but it is generally necessary to augment this by drawing 250,000 gallons per day from the Liverpool Corporation Lake Vyrnwy Aqueduct, this latter supply being obtained under powers granted by an Act of Parliament. The treatment given consists of an average period of seven days storage followed by rapid filtration, with the prior addition of lime and coagulant, lime and Calgon after filtration, and chlorination by the Chloramine system.

The water supply to all parts of the town is constant and more than 99 per cent. of all dwelling houses have direct supplies or stand pipes within easy reach.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Number of houses connected to public sewers .....	3,045
Number of houses having their own private sewage disposal works .....	31
Number of satisfactory private sewage disposal works .....	21
Number of unsatisfactory private sewage disposal works .....	9

### REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Number of wards in the town .....	6
Number of wards where refuse is collected .....	6
Method of collection: By direct labour.	
Method of disposal: Controlled tipping.	

Refuse disposed of by controlled tipping, but this method, instead of carrying out one of the principal objects of the system, namely, the reclamation of derelict land, is spoiling good agricultural land.



**REPORTS OF ANALYSES.****Ref.: F/TA/54 (Raw Water).****Chemical Results in Parts per Million.**

Appearance: Faint opalescence with a slight deposit of mineral and organic debris together with many diatoms and a number of protozoa.

Turbidity: 3.

Colour: Filtered: 20. Odour: Nil.

pH: 6.9. Free Carbon Dioxide: Trace.

Electric Conductivity: 65. Total Solids: 45.

Chlorine present as Chloride: 6. Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 10.

Hardness: Total: 20. Carbonate: 10. Non-carbonate: 10.

Nitrate Nitrogen: 0.0. Nitrite Nitrogen: Less than 0.01.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.000. Oxygen absorbed: 1.8.

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.073. Residual Chlorine: —.

Metals: Iron: 0.08. Other metals absent.

**Bacteriological Results.**

			1 day at 37 C.	2 days at 37 C.	3 days at 20 C.
Number of Colonies developing on Agar .. ..			0 per ml. Present in	0 per ml. Absent from	450 per ml. Probable number
Presumptive Coliaerogenes					
Reaction .. ..			— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type 1) .. ..			— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction .. ..			— ml.	100 ml.	

This sample shows only slight opalescence and carries only a trace of matter in suspension. The water is practically neutral in reaction but it is very soft in character and has a low content of alkalinity. It carries only a small quantity of mineral constituents in solution and it is free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. It shows noticeable but not pronounced colour and is of satisfactory organic quality for this raw supply. Similarly, bacterial purity is very satisfactory, any indication of contamination by excremental matters being absent.

11th April, 1951.

**Ref.: F/TA/55 (Filtered).****Chemical Results in Parts per Million.**

Appearance: Bright with very few mineral particles.

Turbidity: Less than 3.

Colour: Less than 10. Odour: Nil.

pH: 7.3. Free Carbon Dioxide: Trace.

Electric Conductivity: 75. Total Solids: 50.

Chlorine present as Chloride: 6. Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 10.

Hardness: Total: 25. Carbonate: 10. Non-carbonate: 15.

Nitrate Nitrogen: 0.6. Nitrite Nitrogen: Less than 0.01.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.025. Oxygen absorbed: 0.40.

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.018. Residual Chlorine: 0.13.

Metals: Absent.



**Bacteriological Results.**

				1 day at 37 C.	2 days at 37 C.	3 days at 20 C.
No. of Colonies developing on						
Agar .. .. .				0 per ml.	0 per ml.	6 per ml.
				Present in	Absent from	Probable number.
Presumptive Coliaerogenes						
Reaction .. .. .	..	..		— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type 1) .. .. .	..	..		— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction .. .. .	..	..		— ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is very soft in character and has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents in solution. It is free from noticeable colour, of very satisfactory organic quality and of the highest standard of bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes and with respect to manufactures connected with food.

11th April, 1951.

**Ref.: F/NR/93 (Raw Water).****Chemical Results in Parts per Million.**

Appearance: Faint opalescence with a slight flocculent deposit of mineral and organic debris together with a few diatoms, protozoa and a number of chlorophyceae.

Turbidity: 3.

Colour: Filtered: 20. Odour: Nil.

pH: 7.3. Free Carbon Dioxide: Trace.

Electric Conductivity: 75. Total Solids: 50.

Chlorine present as Chloride: 5. Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 17.

Hardness: Total: 26. Carbonate: 17. Non-carbonate: 9.

Nitrate Nitrogen: 0.0. Nitrite Nitrogen: Less than 0.01.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.002. Oxygen absorbed: 1.4.

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.059. Residual Chlorine: —.

**Bacteriological Results.**

				1 day at 37 C.	2 days at 37 C.	3 days at 20 C.
No. of Colonies developing on						
Agar .. .. .				2 per ml.	3 per ml.	80 per ml.
				Present in	Absent from	Probable number.
Presumptive Coliaerogenes						
Reaction .. .. .	..	..		50 ml.	20 ml.	5 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type 1) .. .. .	..	..		50 ml.	20 ml.	5 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction .. .. .	..	..		100 ml.	10 ml.	

This sample shows only slight opalescence and carries only a trace of matter in suspension. The water is neutral in reaction, very soft in character, has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents in solution and it is free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. Colour is noticeable but not pronounced, organic quality is satisfactory and bacterial impurity indicative of contamination by matters of excremental origin is confined to the presence of Bact. coli in small number. No exceptional difficulty would be anticipated in the treatment of this water for the production of a public supply.

21st August, 1951.

**Ref.: F/NR/94 (Filtered)**

**Chemical Results in Parts per Million.**

Appearance: Bright with very few mineral particles.  
 Turbidity: Less than 3.  
 Colour: 14. Odour: Nil.  
 pH: 7.3. Free Carbon Dioxide: Trace.  
 Electric Conductivity: 80. Total Solids: 55.  
 Chlorine present as Chloride: 6. Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 13.  
 Hardness: Total: 29. Carbonate: 13. Non-carbonate: 16.  
 Nitrate Nitrogen: 0.0. Nitrite Nitrogen: Less than 0.01.  
 Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.000. Oxygen absorbed: 0.40.  
 Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.000. Residual Chlorine: Absent.  
 Metals: Iron: 0.18. Other metals absent.

**Bacteriological Results.**

				1 day at 37 C.	2 days at 37 C.	3 days at 20 C.
No. of Colonies developing on						
Agar	..	..	..	0 per ml. Present in	0 per ml. Absent from	0 per ml. Probable number.
Presumptive Coliaerogenes						
Reaction	..	..	..	— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type 1)	..	..	..	— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	..	..	..	— ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water is very soft in character and has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents in solution. It shows only a trace of colour, is of satisfactory organic quality and of the highest standard of bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

21st August, 1951.

**SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT**

**HOUSING.**

The remaining 56 houses of the contract for 74 under construction at the time of the last report were completed by October, and the total number of dwelling houses owned and controlled by the Oswestry Corporation is now 546 including the 50 Aluminium Prefabricated houses in York Fields.

The question of equalisation of rents, has again been raised on several occasions, and since there is still no indication of building costs becoming stable, it would seem that some balance in the fixing of rents would be of assistance both to tenants and the Council. Though the exchange and transfer system has been continued, there has been a marked falling off in the number of enquiries from tenants in the lower rented houses, who would, and in many cases should remove to the newer, larger houses. This has been due, without doubt, to the difference in rent levels on the Council Estates.

With the completion of the 74 houses (stage 2), work has started on stage 3, also on the Middleton Road—Shrewsbury Road Site. The number of houses originally sanctioned by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government was 40, but after negotiation between the Ministry and the Council approval was given to a further allocation of 10 houses. Work has progressed well, and it is



anticipated that the first houses from this contract for 50 houses will be ready for occupation before the end of March, 1952.

It has been most encouraging to find that in addition to the completion of stage 2 and the start on stage 3, the site work has already begun on the roads and sewers for stage 4 of the Council's Housing Programme. Progress such as this, all within a twelve-month period, must be heartening indeed to the many hundreds of families still awaiting a home of their own. The number of dwellings to go on stage 4 has not yet been definitely decided, but it is hoped that the final lay-out will include two-bedroom "Gregory" flats, and two and three-bedroom houses. There is still a pressing need for something smaller than the 3 bedroom houses which have been built since the war, and news of two-bedroom accommodation would be welcome.

The Corporation have shown enterprise in purchasing what was formerly the Harlech Castle Hotel for conversion into flats, and the work of reconstruction of this property is going steadily ahead. When completed there will be nine modern flats, well appointed and centrally situated, which should prove of immense value to the occupants and the Council. It is possible that some or all of these flats will be occupied by about May, 1952.

The method of dealing with applications for Council houses has remained as shown in last year's report, and by close co-operation between the Health and Housing Committees, the serious cases of overcrowding and ill-health due to unsatisfactory housing have been steadily reduced. Many such cases remain to be dealt with, but definite progress has been made, and will undoubtedly continue. The total number of applications for tenancies at the end of the year was in the region of 630, but by housing mainly those families living in rooms, the "active" list was probably only half that number. If building progress can be only maintained at its present level, then the time is near at hand when the Council will be able to house all classes of families needing other, more suitable accommodation.

Number of houses in process of erection at end of year		
Council	.....	50
Private	.....	—
Total number of houses completed during the year		
Council	.....	56
Private	.....	4

### Overcrowding.

As previously stated the serious cases of overcrowding have been steadily reduced. An accurate figure could not possibly be given of the full extent of overcrowding in the Town without a survey, although we have an indication from the applicants for houses which shows that overcrowding and low standard houses are the main reasons given. The number of overcrowding cases relieved from Private Houses was 29.

### Condemned Houses.

There are thirty-two condemned houses still standing, of which 12 are occupied by squatters and the remainder are licensed in accordance with the terms of the Ministry of Health Circular 2156, September, 1939. With three exceptions all the houses are occupied. The occupation of these should not be indefinitely prolonged for they were found to be unfit before the war and their deterioration has progressed. The Health Committee fully realises this and it is now the policy to close such houses as soon as vacated by arrangement with the Owners and in such a manner as to prevent re-occupation.



### FOOD PREPARING PLACES INCLUDING RESTAURANTS AND HOTEL KITCHENS

Number of bakehouses .....	10
Number of cafes and restaurants .....	26
Number of fish and chips shops (not consumed on the premises) .....	6
Number of hotels, licensed and private .....	8
Number of milk bars .....	2
Butchers' manufacturing premises .....	16
Number of ice cream producers .....	3
Number of food preparing places open only on Wednesdays .....	2

Several food preparing places were considerably improved both structurally and with the addition of modern equipment. It is certainly a sound investment to apply modern hygienic methods as was done in the case of at least two bakehouses during the year.

### CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

Copies of the Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, by the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses acting by the Council for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly wrapping and delivery of food sold or intended for sale for human consumption and in connection with the sale and exposure for sale in the open air of food intended for human consumption were distributed to all shops to which the Bye-laws apply, also the Market stalls. While it can be said that on the whole there is a favourable response to the Bye-laws, the standards vary.

The return to the Cross Market from Church Street, has, to say the least, given better facilities for improved conditions and whether all food stalls now operating on the Bailey Head Open Air Market should move into the covered market has been suggested.

Continued propaganda was carried out throughout the year by means of posters displayed in the Town and slides shown in the local cinemas dealing with the protection of food from rats and flies, also with a good backing from the Town's tradespeople dealing with foods, certain action is anticipated to prevent admission of dogs into premises in which food is sold, in the interest of hygiene.

### ICE CREAM.

Samples of ice cream submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Shrewsbury, for the Methylene Blue Test and B. Coli Test were reported upon as being satisfactory.

There are three producer-retailers all of whom use the "cold-mix" method, and twenty retailers in the Borough. Much, if not most of the ice cream is supplied by firms of repute who have their own chemists and laboratories to ensure a satisfactory high grade product.

### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

#### Meat.

The two private slaughterhouses situate in Willow Street taken over by the Ministry of Food in January, 1950, still function for the Borough and the Rural District for the purpose of slaughtering and as distribution

centres, and in addition, for imported meat, tinned meats and imported offal. Both slaughterhouses are in a very congested area and nuisances inevitably arise, especially during the summer months. Improvements in the standards of hygiene—which have been evolved in most fields of the food industry in recent years—are notably absent in spite of certain works carried out intended to increase space and improve the amenities. For the amount of slaughtering carried out at certain periods and this was particularly marked during the year, the slaughterhouses were inadequate in amenities, capacity and equipment. Meat inspection is carried out jointly by the Borough and Oswestry Rural District Sanitary Inspectors.

Regular ante-mortem is not carried out as this is only possible where there is a full-time inspector as in a Public Abattoir. The carcasses and offal of all animals are inspected either during the process of slaughtering or immediately afterwards. Special attention was given to the inspection of cattle for the presence of *Cysticercus Bovis*, a parasitic disease producing a condition commonly known as “measly beef” which has caused some concern in certain parts of the country, this had negative results. Methods of transport from the distributing centres of meat to the shops have been criticised from time to time, but when comparisons are made with areas similar to that of Oswestry, it finally rests very much indeed with the human element for if those handling the meat are not clean and methodical even the most modern and best equipped vans can fail in their purpose.

The vans now used can be described as reasonable and compare favourably with those of other towns; so are the methods of handling the meat.

The Town Council, and particularly the butchers are showing every sign of pressing forward their claims for the erection of a public abattoir. Various sites have been visited and preliminary plans prepared which are designed to meet the immediate requirements of a population of 40,000, and capable of considerable extension.

#### **Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.**

Special attention was paid to the observance of the above mentioned Act which ensures that all animals slaughtered in the Borough for human consumption shall be humanely stunned before slaughter. The use of an electric lethaler introduced during the year for pigs, sheep and calves has proved to be most satisfactory. There were no accidents reported and no complaints recorded.

#### **SMITHFIELD MARKET.**

Since the addition of the T.T. section of the Smithfield Market about three years ago, it is indeed encouraging from the Public Health point of view, to learn that the business has considerably increased and a scheme has been drafted and approved by the Council to include a new sale ring and increased number of ties.

All milking during the use of the market is carried out by corporation employees where found necessary and the milk is emptied into the drain. Previous methods of disposal of this milk were unsatisfactory.

#### **OTHER FOODS.**

The Church Street Produce Market ceased to function as such in September when it returned to the Cross Market, its original place. The almost universal



adoption by Local Authorities of Bye-laws for the handling, wrapping and delivery of food is a matter of some satisfaction which provides a powerful and helpful instrument for improving food handling. It would be unfortunate if the Bye-laws were merely adopted without being properly enforced and in this respect much has yet to be done.

One would like to see this Market made a Model to other food traders with regard to proper protection against contamination. The Bailey Head Open Market also remains a problem that must be faced by the appropriate committee if there is to be proper and consistent functioning of the Bye-laws. As the Local Authority controlling the markets this should be the opportunity to give a useful lead, such problems are not confined only to Oswestry.

The removal of food stalls, particularly food which is easily contaminated, from the open market to the covered market would certainly be a step forward in the right direction.

Food condemned from shops, warehouses and markets included 84 rabbits,  $9\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. grapes, 64 lbs. pears,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  crates cauliflower, 389 jellies,  $34\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. cheese and margarine, 25 lbs. sugar, 60 fish cakes, 5 st. fish, 26 lbs. sausages,  $66\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. bacon,  $121\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. pork, 135 lbs. beef, 56 lbs. fruit cake,  $538\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. biscuits, 14 lbs. sweets, 64 bottled foods, 1,230 tins of food including meat, milk, fruit, jams, vegetables and soups. During the year 146 canned cooked hams (1,362 lbs.) were condemned and much time was spent in the examination of these foreign hams which appear to vary so much in consistency and flavour. Shopkeepers are very conscious of their responsibility to the public and this is demonstrated by their requests for inspection of doubtful samples. These hams came from various countries and it would suggest that it was a profitable business for them and that some firms plunged into the process with insufficient experience.



CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known) ... ..	1451	831	1196	7920	864
Number inspected ... ..	1451	831	1196	7920	864
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	9	12	63	85	32
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	300	336	6	116	28
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ... ..	21.2%	39.4%	5.6%	4.1%	7%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	9	20	6	—	13
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	218	305	—	—	43
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	15.6%	39.1%	0.5%	—	6.5%

Total Meat Condemned 16 tons 8 cwt.      Total Offal Condemned 10 tons 4 cwt.

**FOOD POISONING.**

There were no cases of Food Poisoning notified during the year.

**MILK SUPPLY.****The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.**

Number of milk distributors registered in the Borough .....	8
Number of premises used as dairies (other than dairy farms) .....	6

**Methods of Cleansing Utensils.**

Number of dairies using steam and chemical sterilisation .....	2
Number of dairies using hot water and chemical sterilisation .....	3

**Results of Samples taken during 1951 for Fat Content, Specific Gravity, etc.**

Number of samples tested at Health Department Laboratory .....	86
Number found to be satisfactory .....	74

Seventeen samples of T.T. milk were taken from the herds of four producers for Methylene Blue Test, all of which conformed to the required standard.

The bulk of the milk sold in the Town is bottled.

If unsatisfactory samples are discovered at the Laboratory, the retailer is informed and in cases of repetition the County Council which is the Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, is furnished with all the facts and usually follow up the cases in accordance with the procedure laid down in the above mentioned Act.

There are now two local dairies producing pasteurised milk, these are also the two largest retailers so it is safe to assume that the greatest proportion of the population is having heat treated milk. It is routine practice to take samples of milk supplied to homes from which cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis are notified and the herd of the producer is examined by the Veterinary Inspector.

The cases investigated during the year were negative.

**DAIRY INSPECTION REPORT, 1951.**

At the bi-ennial inspection of herds supplying milk to be consumed in Oswestry, approximately 1,100 cows were examined in 30 herds.

I am glad to report that about 86 per cent. of the milk produced is from tuberculin tested and attested herds, while most of the other 14 per cent. are in process of eradicating tuberculosis from their herds, and it is quite conceivable and very possible that in a year's time all milk for consumption in the Town will be from tuberculin tested herds. Due to this cleaning up of the herds, and more frequent inspection of dairy premises under the new Milk and Dairies Regulations the cleanliness of the premises and cattle, were of a very high standard.

At the inspections 30 milk samples were taken from animals showing abnormality of the udder, all these samples were examined microscopically for the presence of tubercle bacilli and other organisms. In no instance was tubercle bacillus found nor were any animals found to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. Most of the samples examined showed that the animals were suffering from Streptococcal Mastitis, and these animals were separated from the herd and treatment was applied before the animals were allowed to re-enter the milking herd.

GEORGE WYSE, M.R.C.V.S.



Routine sampling of milk for the presence of tubercle bacilli was commenced in 1931. The cows which supply milk to the Borough are also examined at half yearly intervals by the Veterinary Inspector employed by the Council for this purpose.

The following figures show the results of these examinations.

Year.	No. of samples taken.	No. showing presence of Tubercle Bacilli.	No. of cows found to be tubercular at Bi-annual Veterinary inspection.
1931	23	3	3
1932	18	3	1
1933	13	0	1
1934	9	1	1
1935	12	1	1
1936	18	0	0
1937	5	0	3
1938	18	0	3
1939	17	1	2
1940	12	2	3
1941	0	0	0
1942	18	2	2
1943	19	0	4
1944	11	2	3
1945	14	0	5
1946	5	0	2
1947	11	0	3
1948	1	0	3
1949	22	0	2
1950	17	0	2
1951	12	0	0
TOTALS	275	15	44

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

In seven parts of the Town Public Conveniences are provided by the Town Council.

Of the seven there are four combined conveniences for the use of both sexes and two for males only. The conveniences at Cae Glas Park are only available to the public during the hours the Park is open. The damage done from time to time to the conveniences at the Recreation Ground by irresponsible children is appalling and the state in which they are found at the end of the day is disgusting. Formerly there was a man in charge of this children's playground, but since the duties have been curtailed to include the Castle Bank matters appear to have worsened. There is still an insufficiency of public lavatories especially in the vicinity of the Church Street area which embraces the Car Park and also in the vicinity of the Bears Paw. In recent years with the establishment of the Car Park and the increase in the Bus Services at both Church Street and Salop Road for loading and unloading there is obviously a need for modern buildings to house public conveniences and washing facilities.

The matter concerning Church Street has had consideration for a number of years but no practical solution has yet been arrived at in spite of an increasing demand.



**COMMON LODGING HOUSE.**

There is one registered common lodging house in the Town.

Number of inspections ..... 82

This house situated in Orchard Street has accommodation for 26 persons. The standard as compared with Municipally controlled common lodging houses, is low. There is no provision for baths and the washing facilities are grossly inadequate. Apart from the sleeping arrangements the other amenities are definitely cramped and inadequate. There were complaints of a minor character during the year and when these were brought to the notice of the Keeper they were attended to promptly.

**NUISANCES.**

Number of complaints received during the year ..... 248

Visits of inspection were made in all cases and were attended to by verbal or written notices. The majority of complaints referred to defective drains, housing defects and smells from various causes.

Number of informal notices served ..... 142

Number abated by informal notice ..... 120

Number of Statutory Notices served ..... 18

Number of Statutory Notices complied with ..... 16

A nuisance which appears to be on the increase arises from the keeping of dogs. If a check were to be made of all the dogs in Oswestry the figure would be staggering. While people have been encouraged to keep chickens to help the food situation there is now a tendency for this to get out of hand. While this Department is not unsympathetic to such persons it is felt that there is a limit to the conditions under which poultry can be kept in urban surroundings.

**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.**

Since April 1st, 1950, operators have been proceeding jointly in the Borough and Rural District. Two operators appointed by the Joint Committee acting on behalf of the respective Councils carry out the work in the Borough. There were 59 contacts of which in 10 cases, dealt with the infestation of mice and the remaining for rats. An increase of 22.

The operators state that on the whole they are satisfied with the control as it affects the Borough. This is supported by the information received on the checked forms giving details of treatments and consequent results.

Regarding block control, very little was done as the operators' time was mostly taken up with existing contracts. It is not fully realised and especially in congested areas, that a large percentage of rats enter through roofs and insufficient attention is given to preventive measures, for the rat is a wonderful climber.

Apart from surveys made on receipt of complaints from the Health Department very little was done otherwise.

Inspections that were not under contract some of which consequently entered into contracts:

Dwelling Houses ..... 20

Agricultural ..... 6

Others (including business and industrial premises) ..... 8

Total ..... 34

All complaints were dealt with including surrounding areas. In the case of re-infestation where contracts operate, priority is given. On the whole we have received excellent co-operation from those we have had to deal with. It has not been found necessary to serve a compulsory order in any case.

### VERMINOUS PREMISES.

#### Bug Infestation.

Infested houses dealt with:	
Privately owned .....	5
Council Houses .....	Nil

#### Other Vermin.

Infested houses dealt with:	
Privately owned .....	Nil
Council Houses .....	8

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the local sanitary authority under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

### VERMINOUS PERSONS.

There were no verminous persons dealt with during the year. There is no cleansing station for verminous persons nor a disinfectant for bedding, etc., in the Borough. An arrangement, however, exists whereby verminous persons may be cleansed at the Morda Institution.

### DISINFECTION.

During the year the number of disinfections after infectious disease was 18. Books and clothes from schools were disinfected, also library books.

### PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT.

The two Cinemas in the Town are visited at frequent intervals, during times of entertainment and otherwise. Other places of entertainment are also visited from time to time. On the whole they were found to be conducted in an orderly and satisfactory manner. The Plaza Ballroom and Cafe, reconstructed and furnished on modern lines was officially opened by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Morley, during the year. Strict attention is paid to such matters as fire escapes, ventilation, sanitary accommodation and other matters which add considerably to the comfort and enjoyment of the patrons. No complaints were received during the year.

The March and May Pleasure Fairs held annually on the Recreation Ground are subject to inspection with regard to the provision of Sanitary Conveniences and Water supply. Inquiries are made with regard to the health of the Van Dwellers, especially with reference to the control of Infectious Disease.

The reports for the year were satisfactory.

### SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Twenty-eight shops were inspected and special attention given to the provision of suitable and adequate sanitary conveniences, ventilation, temperature, lighting, washing facilities and facilities for taking meals. The provision as to the sanitary and other arrangements in shops as a contribution to the health and comfort of all shop workers unchanged by this Act.

Food shops particularly, had special attention and the provision of suitable washing facilities including hot and cold water, towel and soap and improvements in the standard of sanitary conveniences were pressed forward.



Number of shops with unsatisfactory sanitary conveniences	5
Number remedied .....	5
Number without satisfactory washing facilities .....	7
Number remedied .....	7

### Hours of Employment.

Shop assistants in Oswestry form the greater proportion of the working community.

The duties imposed on the Inspector under the Act have been made more difficult due to the variations in the half days. One of the largest business houses in the Town now closes the grocery departments on Saturdays as an alternative to Thursday afternoon, also some ladies' hairdressing salons and other businesses that formerly closed on Thursday afternoons now open as they are entitled to do provided the conditions as to the employment of assistants are observed. Interviews with Owners, and letters drawing attention to contraventions of conditions of employment were found necessary in some cases. This course however, appeared to have the desired effect and on the whole little trouble was experienced.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No case was dealt with during 1951 under Section 47. The removal of an old man from the Common Lodging House was effected without recourse to this Act as was also done in two other cases of elderly people.

### MORTUARY.

Apart from an arrangement with the Orthopaedic Hospital for the carrying out of post mortem examinations at the Hospital Mortuary, there is no progress to report regarding suitable and adequate provisions in the Borough since my previous reports on the existing unsatisfactory mortuary situated on the Horse Market. The Health Committee gave consideration at one period to additional room being provided to the existing mortuary together with other improvements as a temporary expedient. At a later stage consideration was given to a fresh site owing to objections raised to the cost which would not warrant the necessary improvements suggested owing to the unfavourable site for the purpose.

The present one is grossly out of keeping with modern standards and the subject of criticism both from the Medical Practitioners, and members of the Council from time to time.

### LICENSED HOUSES.

During the year most of the fully licensed houses together with the beer houses were inspected. With the new legislation and the advance of public administration, wider scope is given to deal with such premises. Every house is now provided with approved modernised pipes which can be easily cleaned and are least susceptible to contamination; beer is conveyed from the cellars to the Public Bars by these pipes. Practically every house has now been provided with "hot" in addition to cold water facilities, conveniently placed for washing glasses, etc. In some cases detergents are also used, which is to be commended, inasmuch that in practice it is found that during the busy hours the hot water is too infrequently changed in many instances, and too many glasses swilled in the same water.

There are still some of the old houses where considerable improvements have yet to be carried out to bring them in line with the modernised type.

The attention of Owners has been drawn to this matter.



MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS DURING THE YEAR 1951.

No. of Summonses.	Statutes under which Proceedings were Instituted.	Offence.	Fines.	REMARKS.
1	Public Health Act, 1936.	Distributing Toys for Rags.	£5	The maximum fine was imposed on two of the defendants.
1	Section 154, do.	do.	£5	
1	do.	do.	£4/10/-	

# **FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.**

## **BOROUGH OF OSWESTRY.**

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

### **PART I OF THE ACT.**

1.—**INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	43	24	9	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	71	91	21	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	114	115	30	—

### **2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.**

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied.	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	19	15	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	1	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	8	6	—	4	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	5	5	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	33	27	—	7	—

# WEM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

#### Water Supplies.

Rainfall — not measured.

Consumption — 34,605,000 gallons.

1. Number of dwellings supplied direct from water main .....	755
(a) direct to mains .....	725
(b) by means of standpipes .....	30
2. Number of population supplied by water mains (estimated) .....	2,397
(a) direct to mains .....	2,302
(b) by means of standpipes .....	95

Nature of supply to remaining houses (4 only): Wells.

No new work was carried out during the year.

The water is not chlorinated.

Samples of mains water taken during the year showed no evidence of pollution and were reported by the Public Health Laboratory as being "Highly Satisfactory."

#### Drainage and Sewerage.

Number of houses connected to public sewers .....	724
Number of houses having their own private arrangements of sewage disposal .....	35
Number of satisfactory private sewage disposal works .....	33
Number of unsatisfactory private sewage disposal works .....	2
Number of privies or earth closets converted to W.C's .....	6
Number of houses without a water closet .....	68

Schemes are in hand for relaying the New Street and Central Outfall and Western Outfall sewers and for improvements and extensions to the Sewage Disposal Works.

#### Housing.

Number of houses inspected under Section 5 of the Housing Act, 1936 .....	37
Number of houses fit for habitation .....	35
Number requiring minor repairs .....	2
Number where repairs have been carried out .....	1
Number closed .....	Nil
Number of houses known to be overcrowded .....	Nil
Number of cases of overcrowding relieved .....	Nil
Number of houses completed during the year .....	15
(a) Permanent:—	
I Council houses .....	14
II Privately owned houses .....	1
(b) Temporary houses .....	Nil
Number of houses in process of erection at end of year .....	11
(a) Permanent:—	
I Council houses .....	10
II Privately owned houses .....	1
(b) Temporary houses .....	Nil



**Moveable Dwellings.**

Number of licences for land to be occupied by moveable dwellings ..... Nil

Number of moveable dwellings licensed ..... 4

Conditions in these dwellings have been satisfactory and no nuisances or cases of overcrowding arose during the year.

**Food Preparing Places.**

Regular routine inspections are made of all food shops, and advice has been given where required on the hygiene of storage and handling of foodstuffs. It has not been found necessary to take any statutory action, and the general impression received of shop-keepers has been one of co-operation.

**Bakehouses.**

Number of premises ..... 8

Number of inspections ..... 19

Number where defects were found ..... 4

Number where defects were remedied ..... 4

**Fried Fish Shops and Restaurants.**

Number of premises ..... 2

Number of inspections ..... 3

Number of defects found ..... Nil

Number of defects remedied ..... Nil

**Cafes, Restaurants and Hotel Kitchens.**

Number of premises ..... 5

Number of inspections ..... 7

Number of defects found ..... Nil

Number of defects remedied ..... Nil

Particular attention has been paid when inspecting these premises to the provisions for washing crockery and cutlery. All action taken has been informal and a marked improvement in methods has resulted.

**Ice-Cream Premises.**

Number of ice-cream manufacturers ..... 3

(a) Heat Treated ..... Nil

(b) Cold Mix ..... 3

Number of ice-cream retailers (including 3 manufacturers) 10

**Slaughterhouses.**

Number of licensed premises ..... Nil

**Hotels, Beer Houses, Bars and Cellars.**

Number of premises ..... 15

Number of inspections ..... 8

Number of defects found ..... Nil

Number of defects remedied ..... Nil

The facilities for washing glasses were satisfactory.

**Meat and Other Foods.**

Meat for the district is supplied by the Ministry of Food Depot at Whitchurch, and is transported in an up-to-date, metal-lined container.

Periodical inspections of the container have been carried out during the year, and it has been found to be maintained in a very clean and hygienic condition.

The Department has been called upon to inspect all varieties of foodstuffs and the following were voluntarily surrendered by the retailers:—

Condensed Milk .....	32	tins
Canned Vegetables (Home-Produced) .....	5½	lbs.
Canned Fruit (Home-Produced) .....	54	lbs.
Canned Fruit (Imported) .....	57	lbs.
Canned Meat Products (Imported) .....	45	lbs.
Canned Fish (Imported) .....	7½	lbs.
Jam (Imported) .....	1½	lbs.
Processed Cheese (Imported) .....	10	lbs.
Smoked Haddock .....	14	lbs.
Pigs' Feet .....	1	cwt

**Shops Act, 1934—50.**

Number of inspections .....	6
Number with unsuitable or inadequate sanitary conveniences .....	Nil
Number with unsatisfactory ventilation, temperature or lighting .....	Nil
Number with unsatisfactory washing facilities .....	Nil

**Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.**

Number of distributors (as defined in the Regulations) .....	2
Number of retailers of Tuberculin Tested milk .....	3
Number of retailers of Pasteurised milk .....	2

**Public Conveniences.**

Number: 4 (2 for each sex).

One for each sex are located at the Market Hall Yard and the remainder in the Recreation Ground. Washing facilities are provided in the female conveniences at the Market Hall Yard.

The Council have approved a scheme for the erection of further conveniences in the Market Hall Yard.

**Lodging Houses.**

Number of premises .....	Nil
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**Refuse Disposal.**

Method of collection: Direct labour.

Method of disposal: Tipping.

The same method has been used for 20 years and is satisfactory. Periodical spraying of the refuse tip is carried out as a precaution against flies.

**Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

Inspections of premises under this Act were carried out from time to time; the following is a summary for 1951:—

Number of properties inspected .....	52
(a) Local authority premises .....	6
(b) Dwellinghouses .....	20
(c) Agricultural premises .....	2
(d) Other premises (including business and agricultural) .....	24
Number of properties found to be infested by rats .....	5
Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act .....	Nil
Number of properties cleared of rats .....	5

Rodent control at the Refuse Tip and Sewage Disposal Works is carried out by the Council's workmen. A contract has been entered into with the Agricultural Committee for the treatment of the Allotments.

**Nuisances.**

No particular nuisance has had to be dealt with.

**Verminous Premises and Persons.**

No premises or persons were found to be verminous.



FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

URBAN DISTRICT OF WEM.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	39	26	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	2	—	—
TOTAL ...	41	28	—	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	4	4	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temper- ature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective ...	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- work) ...	—	—			
TOTAL ...	5	5	—	—	—

# WHITCHURCH URBAN DISTRICT

## SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS DURING 1951.

### Nature of Visit or Inspection:—

#### General Sanitation:

Water Supply .....	20
Drainage .....	160
Fried Fish Shops .....	11
Common Lodging Houses .....	25
Tents, Vans and Sheds .....	3
Factories .....	91
Bakehouses .....	89
Public Conveniences .....	155
Rats and Mice .....	170
Smoke Observations ..	3

#### Under Public Health Acts.

Number of houses inspected .....	88
Number of visits .....	191

#### Under Housing Acts.

Number of houses inspected .....	82
Number of visits .....	95

#### Council Houses.

Number of visits ..	168
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#### Verminous Premises.

Number of houses disinfested .....	3
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#### Meat and Food Inspection—Inspection of Meat.

Visits to Slaughterhouse .....	436
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#### Visits to:—

Butchers' Shops and Stalls .....	73
Fishmongers and Poulterers .....	117
Grocers .....	52
Ice-Cream Premises .....	45
Restaurants .....	175
Shops and Stalls .....	45

#### Infectious Diseases.

Number of Visits .....	48
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**WATER SUPPLY.****Rainfall.**

The rainfall as recorded at Fenns Bank for the year 1951 was 33.59 inches as compared with 32.07 inches for the year 1950. This is the greatest annual rainfall recorded since 1931.

November and March were the wettest months, having a rainfall of 5.87 and 4.64 inches respectively. The driest month was October with a rainfall of 0.85 inches.

**Water Consumption.**

The total water consumption for the year amounted to 84,272,000 gallons, a daily average of 230,882 gallons. This shows an increase of 2,684 gallons per day over 1950. This increase is probably due to the supply not being shut off at night during the summer months as it had been in the previous year.

During the months of July and December, the daily consumption was highest with 240,387 and 235,379 gallons respectively.

**Supply from Public Mains and Other Sources.**

Number of dwellings supplied from water mains:—

Direct to the houses .....	1,834
Number of population, approx. ....	6,200
Number of houses supplied by means of standpipes .....	123
Approximate population .....	480
Number of dwellings in district without an indoor supply .....	189

**Existing Water Supply.**

There has been no extensive change in the sources of water during the year.

The Brickyard supply continues to yield a water with a high iron content, making it necessary to scrape the suction and delivery pipes at frequent intervals to remove incrustation.

The existing chlorinator is in poor condition due to its age and use and requires constant maintenance. The purchase of a new plant, suitable for transferring to the new water supply scheme when it comes into operation, is being considered.

**Proposed New Water Supply.**

The proposed new water supply scheme was approved in principle by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on the 5th May, 1951. A tender for the sinking and testing of the boreholes has been provisionally accepted by the Council. The Minister's approval of this tender and starting date for the work are awaited.

**Houses without Mains Supply.**

No cases of polluted wells have been reported. It has again been necessary to refuse all applications for connection to the water mains (other than for domestic purposes) owing to the heavy demand upon the supply during peak periods.



## WATER SAMPLES (Bacteriological).

Date.	Source.	Place of Sampling.	Treatment.	B.Coli per 100 mill.	Faecal B. Coli % of Total.
5/1/51	Mains Supply.	Plumber's Shop.	Chlorinated.	0	0
9/1/51	do.	Smallholding (a)	do.	3	0
9/1/51	do.	Smallholding (b)	do.	1	0
23/1/51	do.	Smallholding (a)	do.	1	0
15/2/51	do.	Edgeley Road	do.	0	0
27/2/51	do.	Smallholding (a)	do.	5	0
27/2/51	do.	Pumping Main.	do.	0	0
19/3/51	do.	Plumber's Shop.	do.	0	0
26/4/51	do.	Edgeley Road	do.	0	0
17/5/51	do.	Edgeley Road	do.	0	0
18/6/51	do.	Plumber's Shop.	do.	0	0
18/6/51	do.	Smallholding (a)	do.	0	0
18/7/51	do.	Plumber's Shop.	do.	0	0
13/8/51	do.	Council Offices.	do.	3	100
22/8/51	do.	Council Offices.	do.	0	0
22/8/51	do.	Plumber's Shop.	do.	0	0
21/9/51	do.	Plumber's Shop.	do.	0	0
17/10/51	do.	Plumber's Shop.	do.	0	0
19/11/51	do.	Rosemary Lane	do.	0	0
17/12/51	do.	Rosemary Lane	do.	0	0

The routine monthly sample of water taken on the 13th August was reported on by the Analyst as containing 3 faecal b.coli per 100 ml. Two subsequent samples taken on the 22nd August were reported on as highly satisfactory, as were the routine samples for the four remaining months of the year. It is thought probable that contamination of the sample taken on the 13th August must have inadvertantly taken place during the taking of the sample.

A sample of water taken by the Flintshire County Milk Production Officer on the 8th December from one of the Fenns Bank Smallholdings was found to be unsatisfactory. Two samples, taken from the smallholding and another supplied from the same pumping main, were taken on the 9th January, and were found to contain 3 and 1 non-faecal b.coli per 100 ml. respectively. Although these samples were reported on by the Analyst as satisfactory, they were not of the same bacteriological quality as the sample collected in the town on the same day. A further sample taken from the smallholding supply originally complained of was taken on the 23rd January and was found to contain 1 non-faecal b.coli per 100 ml., and another on the 27th February, 5 non-faecal b.coli per 100 ml. A sample taken from the pumping main on the same day as the latter sample referred to was found to be free of b.coli and this seemed to indicate the possibility of contamination taking place in the branch line from the main to the smallholding. Another sample from the smallholding, taken on the 18th June was found to be free from b.coli.

**Water Samples (Chemical).**

A sample from the town mains taken on the 23rd April, 1951, was reported on by the Analyst as follows:—

	Parts per 100,000
Total Solid matter in solution .....	70.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates .....	0.13
Nitrites .....	—
Chlorine in Chlorides .....	12.9
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80°F .....	0.09
Free and Saline Ammonia .....	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia .....	0.009
Lead. Copper. Zinc .....	Nil
Microscopical Examination of the Sediment .....	Trace Iron
Temporary Hardness in Degrees Clark .....	19.3
Permanent Hardness in Degrees Clark .....	2.1
pH Value .....	7.5

This is a hard water containing a little salt. If the bacteriological quality is good the water will be suitable for use for drinking purposes. The water is likely to cause "Scale" in hot water apparatus and in Boilers.

**Swimming Baths.**

The Public Baths, owned by the Council, were open to the public as usual during the Summer months, and the Slipper Baths housed in the same building were available for use on Saturdays throughout the year. Once again the schools and the Youth Club used the Swimming Baths during the Summer on an agreed rota.

The water in the Swimming Baths has been changed once weekly, and sterilisation of the water has been carried out by hand dosage with solutions containing chlorine.

Two samples of the water were examined bacteriologically. The first showed the presence of 3 b.coli (1 of faecal origin) per 100 ml. and the second only 1 b.coli (not of faecal origin) per 100 ml.

The installation of the new water filtration and chlorination plant has been commenced and this apparatus should be in operation in time for the 1952 season.

The following were the attendances at the Baths during the year:—

Total attendances from Schools .....	4,761
Youth Club .....	328
Slipper Baths .....	1,484
Other attendances .....	6,873
	<hr/>
Total .....	13,446
	<hr/>



**DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.**

Number of houses (excluding new houses) connected to public sewer during the year .....	Nil
Number of new dwellings connected during the year .....	15
Number of houses having private arrangements for sewage disposal .....	
Number of satisfactory private sewage disposal plants .....	
Number of unsatisfactory private sewage disposal plants .....	Not Known
Number of houses without a proper flush closet, i.e.: pail closets, slop water closets or trough closets .....	133

Conditions at the Sewage Disposal Site at Rising Sun, Whitchurch, remain unsatisfactory. The site was visited by an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in April and approval in principle was given in June. Detailed drawings are now awaited from the Council's Consulting Engineers.

**HOUSING.****Sanitary Inspector's Notices Served, 1951:**

<b>Informal Notices:</b>		
<b>Under Public Health Act, 1936:</b>	Notices Served.	Complied With.
Section 93 (relating to Nuisances) .....	13	7
Section 45 (relating to Defective Closets) .....	3	3
Section 75 (relating to Defective Dustbins) .....	17	6
Section 39 (relating to insufficient sanitary appliances) .....	12	10
<b>Under Housing Act, 1936:</b>		
Section 9 (relating to unfit houses capable of being rendered fit) .....	3	—
<b>Formal Notices:</b>		
<b>Under Public Health Act, 1936:</b>		
Section 75 (relating to defective Dustbins) .....	11	4
Dustbins supplied in default .....		7
<b>Under Housing Act, 1936:</b>		
Section 9 (relating to unfit houses capable of being rendered fit) .....	—	—

**OVERCROWDING.**

Number of houses known to be overcrowded at beginning of year .....	16
Number of houses known to be overcrowded at end of year .....	14

**Number of Houses relieved of Overcrowding during the Year.**

Private Houses .....	3
Council Houses .....	2

**Number of Persons Concerned.**

Private Houses .....	22
Council Houses .....	21



**NEW COUNCIL HOUSES.**

Number of permanent houses completed during year .....	12
Number in process of erection at end of year .....	38
<b>Number expected to be completed during 1952:</b>	
Permanent .....	60
Temporary .....	Nil

**PRIVATE ENTERPRISE HOUSING.**

Number completed during the year .....	3
Number in course of erection at end of year .....	3

**LICENCES FOR NEW HOUSING.**

Number of licences issued for the erection of houses by private enterprise .....	6
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**VERMINOUS PREMISES.**

Two Council houses and one privately-owned house were found to be infested with bed-bugs. These houses were disinfested and re-infestation has not occurred.

**RODENT CONTROL.**

The eradication of rats and mice has been proceeded with during the year. The Council employ a trained man part-time on this work. Council-owned properties are inspected regularly and treatments for the destruction of rats and mice are carried out when found to be necessary. The schools are dealt with in the same way by arrangement with the Education Authority, and any business premises or privately-owned dwelling houses found to be infested are treated similarly, the owner or occupier being charged with the cost of the works.

The Surveyor, his Assistant, and Rodent Operator attended a Course of Instruction in Rodent Control at Shrewsbury on the 25th and 26th January.

The following number of treatments have been carried out during the year:—

Dwelling Houses .....	11
Business Premises .....	29
Council Properties .....	6
School Canteens .....	4

**SALVAGE.**

The amount of waste paper and cardboard salvaged during the year was 89 tons 19 cwts. 1 qr.

**PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.**

There are eight Public Conveniences within the District, details are given below:—

Sedgeford .....	Urinals and Gent's W.C.
Smallbrook .....	Urinals.
Castle Hill .....	Urinals.
Jubilee Park .....	Ladies' W.C's, Urinals and Gent's W.C's.
Smithfield (North End) .....	Urinals.
Smithfield (South End) .....	Urinals.
Parking Ground .....	Ladies' W.C's and washplace. Gent's W.C's and washplace.
St. Mary's Street .....	Ladies' W.C's and washplace. Gent's W.C's and washplace.

**REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.**

Collection of house and trade refuse has been carried out in the Bedford Tipper Lorry as in previous years, a seven days frequency of collection having been maintained except on Bank holidays.

Disposal of the refuse has been by controlled tipping in the Shropshire Union Canal, which has been dewatered.

**COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**

Twenty-five inspections have been made of the one Common Lodging House in the district. Conditions are not ideal but the cleanliness of the premises has been found to be well maintained and on one occasion only was it found necessary to take action in respect of the cleanliness of the bedding.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	1,435	1,223	1,228	4,627	1,026
Number inspected ... ..	1,435	1,223	1,228	4,627	1,026
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	3	9	46	8	49
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ... ..	366	489	13	530	201
*Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ... ..	25.71	40.72	4.8	11.63	24.37
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	9	43	2	—	14
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ... ..	146	338	—	—	89
*Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	10.80	31.15	0.163	—	10.04

Approximately 40 tons of meat and offal were condemned.



**MEAT INSPECTION—RETAIL SHOPS.**

Inspections are made regularly of Butchers' Shops, and of shops and stalls selling meat products. Seventy-three inspections were made and a good standard of hygiene was found.

**TRANSPORT OF MEAT.**

All meat delivered to the Butchers' Shops comes from the Allocation Centre in Liverpool Road. The vehicles used on this work are closed types fitted with meat-hanging apparatus and are quite satisfactory.

**RESTAURANT AND HOTEL KITCHENS.**

One hundred and seventy-five inspections of kitchens of catering establishments have been made and particular note has been taken of the washing-up methods employed. Although in no case may the equipment provided be described as ideal—no restaurant in the district has modern double sinks—the arrangements are, in general, satisfactory. Recorded temperatures of washing-up water vary between 115 degrees F and 130 degrees F, and a variety of detergents and sterilants is used. The use of a sterilant is always recommended but certain proprietors are reluctant to abandon the exclusive use of soda or soap.

Similarly, the glass-washing methods employed in the licensed premises of the town vary considerably; all are fairly satisfactory but the human element plays a large part and during rush periods the simplest methods well-maintained have been observed and thought to be preferable to more complicated methods not properly adhered to. In many licensed houses proprietary brands of the quaternary ammonium compounds are used in the washing-up water and these are thought to be very satisfactory.

**ICE-CREAM.**

There are two manufacturers of ice-cream in the district; one of these produces a "heat-treated" ice-cream and the other a "cold-mix" product.

Twenty-one premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Forty-five inspections of these premises have been made and conditions in all cases found to be satisfactory.

Samples of ice-cream taken from the two manufacturers were in both cases reported on as falling within Grade I, which is very satisfactory.

**FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.**

There has been no outbreak of food-poisoning in the district during the year.

**FOOD BYELAWS UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.**

Informal action was taken in one case of contravention of the Byelaws concerning the contamination of food during delivery; no further action was necessary.

### MARKETS.

The weekly produce market is held on a Friday and is partly under cover and partly in the open air. The stalls in use for the sale of food are of a suitable height to avoid ground dust and fouling by dogs, and screened where possible.

Sanitary accommodation for stallholders is not satisfactory and the Council are providing sanitary accommodation with facilities for washing hands with hot and cold water.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There is only one slaughterhouse in use in the district, situated in Liverpool Road and operated by the Ministry of Food.

Conditions at the slaughterhouse are not good; there is no constant hot water supply in the building and the premises are inadequate in size to deal with the amount of slaughtering now carried out. There is no room provided for the detention of suspect carcasses which must perforce remain with the sound meat.

### SMITHFIELD.

The cattle market, used on Mondays and Fridays, is owned by the Council and used by two firms of Auctioneers on alternate weeks.

No cases have been found of cows requiring to be milked in the market as with modern transport and rapid selling the animals are off the premises before this is necessary.

### SHOPS ACT, 1950.

No survey has been made of the conditions of ventilation, temperature and sanitary accommodation at the shops in the district. No cases are known where arrangements in these respects are unsatisfactory, and no complaints have been received.

The Council is not the authority for the enforcement of those provisions of the Act relating to lighting and washing facilities and facilities for taking meals. These provisions are administered by the County Council.

### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

No licences have been issued for the use of land for moveable dwellings.

Eight persons hold licences to station and use moveable dwellings on specified sites within the district.

### PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT.

There are two buildings only in the area which may be classed as places of public entertainment, the Council-owned Assembly Hall and Corn Exchange, and the Palladium Cinema.

The sanitary accommodation in the Assembly Hall consists of two W.C.'s and one urinal range for males, and two W.C.'s for females. There is also one W.C. behind the stage. Natural ventilation of the hall is satisfactory, adequate outlet being provided in the boarded and slated roof.

The sanitary accommodation in the Cinema consists of two ranges of urinals and a W.C. for males, and two W.C.'s for females.

The mechanism of the artificial ventilation plant of the Cinema is out of order and has not been in operation for some time.



**MILK AND DAIRIES.****Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949:**

Number of Milk Distributors .....	4
Number of Dairies (other than Dairy Farms) .....	4

**Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:****“Tuberculin Tested” Milk—Dealers’ Licences:**

Number of Principal Licences .....	5
Number of Supplementary Licences .....	—

**“Accredited” Milk—Dealers’ Licences:**

Number of Principal Licences .....	1
Number of Supplementary Licences .....	—

**Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949:****“Pasteurised” Milk—Dealers’ Licences:**

Number of Principal Licences .....	2
Number of Supplementary Licences .....	—

**“Sterilised” Milk—Dealers’ Licences:**

Number of Principal Licences .....	—
Number of Supplementary Licences .....	—



## WHITCHURCH URBAN DISTRICT

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948.

## URBAN DISTRICT OF WHITCHURCH.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

## PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	13	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	58	81	7	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	5	—	—
TOTAL ...	73	88	7	—

## 2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1 )	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temper- ature (S.3) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defect- ive ... ..	5	5	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	1	—	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- work) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	7	6	—	4	—

# ELLESMERE RURAL DISTRICT

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Rainfall: 32.25 inches (recorded at Tetchill).

#### Water Supply.

1. Number of dwelling houses supplied from public water mains:—
  - (a) Direct to houses: Ellesmere Rural Parish (Dudleston Heath, Trench, Coptiviney, Lee and Myddle (Sleap) 320.
  - (b) By means of standpipes: Ellesmere Rural 60; Myddle (Sleap) 22; not including two hutments in the Wem Rural District.
2. Number of population supplied from public water mains:—
  - (a) Direct to house, 1,207.
  - Standpipes, 240.

All these areas, except (Sleap), were supplied from the Liverpool Corporation main.

Consumption from Vyrnwy Aqueduct was 38,594,000 gallons.

Sleap R.A.F. Station has a supply from borehole with storage facilities for 50,000 gallons, administered by the Council by temporary agreement with the Air Ministry.

The private supply of the Bradford Estate extends by main to Great Ness and Little Ness, supplying 59 houses.

Nature of supplies to remaining houses: Wells and springs.

Bore-holes were sunk in the cases of Council Houses where no main supply was available. Public pumps supply approximately 200 persons at Cockshutt and Harmer Hill, together with village pumps at Weston Lullingfields, Myddle and Tetchill. There has been no complaint of shortage from these areas. The Walford Farm Institute premises and premises at Yeaton have been supplied from the Atcham R.D.C. mains.

Samples of supplies to villages, Council Houses and Private Supplies were taken.

Of the 9 Private Supplies 10 samples were unsatisfactory and 1 was satisfactory.

A postal survey of the whole area in connection with existing and required supplies was carried out during the year. The information obtained thereby and recorded on a map of the area will be of great assistance in preparing a scheme or schemes to cover the need of the rural district.

Work will be commenced early in 1952 for the relaying of approximately one mile length of water main supplying premises from Pigeon's Bank to Pentremadoc, Dudleston.

The water supply to the areas without a piped supply are far from satisfactory, in nearly all cases it falls short for reason of doubtful quality, quantity and accessibility, this particularly applies to Baschurch, Cockshutt, Myddle, Pentre, Perthy, Hordley, Tetchill, Welshampton and Weston Lullingfields.

#### Drainage and Sewage.

Number of houses connected to Public Sewers: 22 Hutments at Myddle (Sleap).

Many inhabited houses have their own systems or as combined drainage systems. Approximately fifty houses at Nesscliffe Depot are served by one disposal unit.

Number of Privies and Earth Closets converted to W.C's: 34.



**HOUSING ACT, 1936.**

Cases of overcrowding came to the notice of the Council during the consideration of applications for the tenancies of Council Houses. Seven cases were relieved during the year, six of which were rehoused in Council Houses. The numbers of occupants in each family involved were not large. No cases of recurring overcrowding came to notice, and attempts were made to prevent occupation of houses by large families where the previous family had been given the tenancy of a council house. In most cases overcrowding was due to two or more families being in the same house.

Number of houses inspected under the Housing Act.....15

Number of houses found overcrowded:—

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. Council Houses .....       | 3 |
| 2. Private Owned Houses ..... | 8 |

Number of persons therein:—

- |                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| 1. Council Houses .....       | 33 |
| 2. Private Owned Houses ..... | 39 |

Number of cases of overcrowding relieved:—

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. Council Houses .....       | 0 |
| 2. Private Owned Houses ..... | 7 |

Number of houses repaired under licence ..... 33

Number of houses completed during the year:—

- |                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Permanent ..... | 51 |
| Temporary ..... | 0  |
| Private .....   | 1  |

Number of houses in process of erection at the end of the year:—

- |               |    |
|---------------|----|
| Council ..... | 20 |
| Private ..... | 6  |

Number of houses planned for 1952:—

- |                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Permanent (Council) ..... | 66 |
| Permanent (Private) ..... | 40 |

The Council are to distribute a Housing Programme for 1952 as follows:—

- |                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Baschurch .....    | 12 |
| Cockshutt .....    | 8  |
| Petton .....       | 4  |
| Myddle .....       | 12 |
| Nesscliffe .....   | 8  |
| Pentreheylin ..... | 10 |
| Tetchill .....     | 12 |
| Total .....        | 66 |



**FOOD PREPARING PLACES**

Number of Bakehouses .....	7
Number of Inspections .....	7
Number where defects were found .....	—
Number where defects were remedied .....	—
Number of Fried Fish Shops and Restaurants .....	2
Number of Cafes and Restaurants .....	11
Number inspected .....	11
Number where defects were found .....	—
Number of Ice-cream Manufacturers .....	1
1. Heat Treated .....	1
2. Cold Mix .....	—
Number of inspections .....	6
Number where defects were found .....	—
Number of Ice-cream Retailers .....	7
Number of inspection .....	8
Number where defects were found .....	—

The Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, came into force in October, and copies of the Byelaws were distributed to all persons concerned. At the end of the year arrangements were in hand for a comprehensive survey of such premises during 1952. Several owners of premises where food is sold have already shown willing co-operation.

There are seven butchers' shops; one milk retailer of Tuberculin Tested milk; one emergency slaughterhouse; twenty shops retailing food; nineteen inns and catering establishments; one ice-cream manufacturer, together with seven retailers; without mentioning the numerous vehicles that come into the area selling various items of food. There is no site in the area for selling food from stalls in the open air.

Single sinks are generally in use, and sterilisation is by means of detergents and boiling water, for cleansing and rinsing. In licensed premises the owners are usually willing to co-operate in providing sanitary conveniences and facilities for the cleansing of utensils, especially where catering facilities are also offered. Rinsing of glasses with hot water is the general method, especially where a thermostatically controlled supply of hot water has been installed.

**SHOPS ACT, 1950****REPORTS ON SAMPLES OF ICE-CREAM**

Conditions are generally good. Sampling of Ice-Cream has been of assistance in maintaining satisfactory products. The Manufacturer and Retailers have shown ready co-operation. Of 15 samples taken, 11 were Grade 1, one in Grade 2, and 3 in Grade 3.

**PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT**

There are approximately eight places of entertainment; in some cases some improvement could be effected in the sanitary accommodation available.

**PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

There are no public conveniences in the area. Improvements to sanitary conveniences to five hotels and inns have been carried out.

**MOVEABLE DWELLINGS, VANS, TENTS, ETC.**

No licences were issued for land to be occupied by moveable dwellings, but a survey on this matter is intended.

No moveable dwellings were licensed during the year.

**NUISANCES**

Number dealt with .....	42
Number remedied .....	30
Additional visits .....	37
Number of visits for all purposes during the year .....	1,352

**MILK ((SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER**

(The A.E.C. have not supplied the information of the number of T.T. and Accredited Producers).

Number of T.T. Retailers .....	2
Number of T.T. Retailers (Supplementary) .....	2
Number of Licences to Pasteurise Milk .....	—
Number of Licences to Retail Pasteurised Milk .....	2

**MEAT INSPECTIONS**

Sixty visits were paid to one emergency slaughter house and other occasional visits were paid to premises with the sale of meat for human consumption.

No instances of the presence of cysticercus bovis were found in carcasses.

**OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED**

15 lbs. Bacon .....	Decomposition
12 lbs. Shoulder Ham .....	Perforation
16 lbs. Luncheon Meats .....	Blown
1 lb. Stewed Steak .....	Blown
1½ lbs. Pilchards (Tins) .....	Blown
1 lb. Salmon (Tin) .....	Blown
4¾ lbs. Processed Cheese .....	Decomposition
1 lb. Tomatoes (Tins) .....	Punctured
3¼ lbs. Tomatoes (Tins) .....	Blown
1¾ lbs. Processed Peas .....	Blown
1¾ lbs. Australian Pears .....	Perforation

**SLAUGHTERHOUSES**

One emergency slaughterhouse is situated in the Council's area. Regular inspections of carcasses and when possible ante-mortem inspections are carried out. A proportion of the meat is inspected at the Shrewsbury Abattoir. Plans are being prepared for improvements to the lay-out of the premises. Great care is shown by the owners in maintaining a hygienic condition in the slaughterhouse.

**THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**

Any infestation of rats that occurred on the Council's refuse tips and other properties were dealt with by the Council's own workmen. Owners of private properties were advised on methods to be used or to take up a contract with a professional firm or with the Agricultural Executive Committee where agricultural land was concerned.

**VERMINOUS PREMISES AND PERSONS**

An infestation of Crickets on a private refuse tip was treated with Cooper's Tip Dressing. Two premises were treated for an infestation of fleas and cockroaches, respectively, "Zaldecide" being the agent used.



CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	79	1,350	176	132	281
Number inspected	79	1,350	176	132	281
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned	10	317	5	1	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	12.6%	23.5%	2.8%	0.8%	1.8%
TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcasses condemned	6	170	—	—	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.6%	12.6%	—	—	2.5%

A proportion of the meat is inspected at Shrewsbury.



**CYSTICEROUS BOVIS**

Two cases of *Taenia Mediocannellata* were reported, occurring in the same district within two weeks of each other. This is the tape-worm infection resulting from *Cysticercus Bovis* in cattle which appears to have increased in recent years.

Investigations showed that in each case the meat, although from different distributors was from the same slaughterhouse in the neighbouring town. The Medical Officer of Health of the town was informed and he took the matter up with the Abattoir Superintendent; no further information was received.

In the course of an inspection at the retailer's premises, evidence was found that examination had been made for the presence of cysts by incision into the muscles of the lower jaw in which they are also liable to be found, but not in the heart, objections have been expressed to the latter procedure on the grounds that it adversely affects the market value of that organ.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

RURAL DISTRICT OF ELLESMERE.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	36	14	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	15	9	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by) the Local Authority (ex- cluding out-workers' premises) ..	41	90	—	—
TOTAL ...	92	113	—	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	2	2	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temper- ature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defect- ive ...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences, etc. ..					
TOTAL ...	2	2	—	1	—

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Rainfall

The total rainfall for the year was 38.95 inches.  
The following parishes are provided with a public water supply:—

	No. of houses supplied direct.	No. of houses supplied by stand- pipe.
Selattyn ... ..	175	89
Weston Rhyn ... ..	451	34
St. Martins ... ..	455	10
Whittington ... ..	644	18
Oswestry Rural ... ..	546	14
Llanymynech ... ..	140	10
Llanyblodwel ... ..	57	3
Total ... ..	2468	178

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF PIPED SUPPLIES.

Date.	Supply.	B.Coli per 100 ml.	Faecal Content.
28/5/51	Maesbury (Chlorinated) ... ..	1	1
28/5/51	Maesbury (Unchlorinated) .. ..	1	0
28/5/51	Llanymynech (Chlorinated) ... ..	0	—
28/5/51	Llanymynech (Unchlorinated) .. ..	5	5
28/5/51	Mardy (Chlorinated) ... ..	0	—
28/5/51	Selattyn (Chlorinated) ... ..	0	—
28/5/51	Nantmawr (Chlorinated) .. ..	17	17
28/5/51	Selattyn (Unchlorinated) ... ..	180 plus	180 plus
28/5/51	Trefonen (Chlorinated) ... ..	0	—
19/6/51	Nantmawr ... ..	0	—
22/10/51	Selattyn .. ..	180 plus	180 plus
23/10/51	Llanymynech (Chlorinated) .. ..	0	—
23/10/51	Maesbury (Chlorinated) .. ..	0	—
23/10/51	Mardy (Chlorinated) .. ..	3	3
23/10/51	Trefonen .. ..	180 plus	180 plus
23/10/51	Nantmawr .. ..	0	—
31/12/51	Selattyn (Chlorinated) ... ..	50	50
31/12/51	Mardy (Chlorinated) .. ..	0	—
31/12/51	Mardy (Chlorinated) .. ..	0	—

REMARKS.

With regard to the adverse samples indicated above. The following comments can be made:—  
Nantmawr has always proved to be a very satisfactory supply and naturally the result of a sample indicating the presence of B. Coli caused some concern. However, investigations proved that the service from where the sample was taken had recently been altered and it is felt that the contamination was in the service pipe or fittings. A further sample was taken from a nearby existing service and was reported as being satisfactory.



In the case of Selattyn, the water supply has always been poor in quality and contains solid matter, e.g.: grit and sand. The particles are not filtered out and therefore, occasionally block the filter of the chlorinator and renders it ineffective. Whilst the Engineer keeps the plant under regular supervision, it is difficult to prevent the trouble occurring on account of the inadequate system.

Trefonen water supply has always been of poor quality when not chlorinated. The unsatisfactory sample taken during the year was at a time when the chlorinator was out of commission.

The sample taken from the Mardy supply showed slight contamination. However, two further samples proved to be satisfactory. The contamination of the first sample may have been from the fittings at the place of sampling, though every precaution to sterilize was taken. The bottle, of course, could have been the source of the trouble, but very unlikely as they are obtained from the laboratory.

Number of other Bacteriological Samples taken from	
Private Supplies .....	30

18 of these were found to be unsatisfactory.

### WATER SCHEMES.

Progress has been made during the year, particularly with regard to the priority parts of the comprehensive scheme embarked upon by the Council. The Ministry of Housing and Local Government authorised the Council to invite tenders for contracts in respect of the following parts of the district and also stipulated 1st February, 1952, as a starting date.

Nantmawr.	St. Martins.	Racecourse area.
Treflach.	Rhosygadfa.	Selattyn.

Although not included in the original priority area, the Ministry gave permission for the hamlet of Nantycaws to be included, which will mean an extension of the supply already at Sweeney.

At the close of the year the Council had received tenders for the contract, and they were forwarded to the Consulting Engineer for his consideration.

#### **Pentre and Molverley.**

About 71 premises in the areas of Pentre and Molverley received daily delivery of water supplied from a Creamery in the Ellesmere Rural District. In September we received notice that the Creamery was closing down and that other arrangements for a supply of water to the premises mentioned above would have to be made. Permission for the taking of a supply from a nearby Military Camp was sought by the Council and granted. The delivery of water on two days of a week by motor lorry with tanks mounted on it was started by the Council and carried out by direct labour. The Council also immediately instructed the Consulting Engineer to go into the possibility of providing a piped supply to the hamlets.

The areas are ultimately to be included in the comprehensive scheme, therefore, the Council maintained that although it may mean some considerable time before a supply could be procured from the Ruyton borehole, the permanent mains be laid and for the present time supplied with water from a local source.

#### **Ruyton-XI-Towns.**

The sinking and testing of a second borehole at Ruyton-XI-Towns was actually in progress during the year. Until the efficiency of this borehole has been thoroughly tested, further work in connection with head works and laying of mains cannot be proceeded with.

**HOUSING**

Number of Council Houses in process of erection during the year ..	130
Number of Council Houses completed during the year .....	76
Number of Private Houses in process of erection during the year ..	22
Number of Private Houses completed during the year .....	12
Number of houses planned for 1952 .....	84

**SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.**

The number of houses connected to the public sewer is 1,449.

**SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.****Morda.**

Following a Public Enquiry held in respect of proposed sewage scheme at Morda, it was decided to discuss with the Oswestry Borough Council the possibility of connecting up the Morda trunk sewer with a new sewage disposal works proposed by the Borough, and thus obviate the necessity for the construction of two permanent works. Because of the delay in negotiations with the Oswestry Borough Council, the Oswestry Rural District Council sought the permission of the Ministry to proceed with the original scheme which included permanent disposal works to meet the present and future needs of Morda only.

**Weston Rhyn.**

The Council has for some years proposed constructing new permanent disposal works for the above area and the extension of the trunk sewers to meet the needs of certain areas not already served. The existing works are no doubt overloaded and will not allow for future development in this area.

The original scheme embodied a new disposal works on the north bank of the River Ceiriog. However, the site presented difficulties so far as access was concerned and to overcome the problem, the Council then decided to obtain a site on the south bank of the river. Negotiations for land were being made at the end of the year.

**Llanymynech and Pant Area.**

The above district has no means for proper disposal of sewage at the present time, and there can be no doubt as to the necessity for a scheme being required in the area if nuisances are to be avoided and future development proceeded with. The Council having considered the position, instructed the Consulting Engineer to make a survey of the area and present a report. Bordering on this part of the Council's district is an adjoining village situated in the area of Llanfyllin R.D.C. Oswestry Rural District Council thought it might be expedient if the two districts decided on a joint scheme. The two Councils met during the year and discussed the whole matter and at the end of the year, the proposed relative costs of the scheme between the two authorities was under consideration.

**FILTHY AND VERMINOUS PREMISES**

No verminous premises have been found during the year, but 3 filthy premises were dealt with satisfactorily.



**FRIED FISH SHOPS.**

Number of Registered Premises .....	6
Number of Unregistered Premises .....	Nil
Number of Inspections .....	9

In one case only was it necessary to draw the occupier's attention to the need of a higher standard of cleanliness.

**FOOD PREPARING PLACES.****Bakehouses.**

Number of Premises .....	13
Number Inspected .....	13
Number of Inspections .....	27
Number of Written Notices .....	4
Number Complied with .....	4

One bakehouse has been very much improved. One new one has been erected, complete with modern ovens.

A heavy infestation of flies was found in one building. Treatment with Aerosol sprays proved very successful and advice for future treatment was given to the occupier.

Only one bakehouse in the district now remains to be improved. The owner has been approached on several occasions and he has now put forward suggested improvements which it is hoped will soon be carried out.

**Cafes and Restaurants.**

Number of Premises .....	15
Number Inspected .....	13
Number of Inspections .....	16
Notices Served .....	1
Notices Complied with .....	1

The notice served was in respect of sanitary accommodation, the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

**Meat Product Preparation Rooms.**

Number of Premises .....	2
Number Inspected .....	2
Number of Inspections .....	6

It was not found necessary to take action in respect of these premises.

**Ice Cream Premises.**

Number of Registered Premises .....	27
-------------------------------------	----

Visits have been made to all premises retailing ice cream. There are no manufacturers in the district.

Samples have been taken but only 3 reported on by the analyst. Some melted during transit and were therefore unfit for testing. We were again requested this year to postpone sending samples to the laboratory on account of the high temperature of the water used in carrying out the test.

It is interesting to note that some wholesalers are providing their retailers with litter baskets for fixing on the premises. These baskets are made good use of by the public and do prevent waste-paper being deposited in the streets. The wholesalers are to be congratulated in trying to prevent the spread of litter, particularly papers used to wrap ice cream.

**Results of Samples.**

Grades.				
No.	1.	2.	3.	4.
3	2	1	—	—



**FOOD.**

Food premises have been kept under observation and there are obvious signs that the Bye-laws relating to clean foods are being taken notice of. Some food handlers have, however, expressed concern about the scarcity and cost of paper wrapping, and also of the cost of glass show cases. We have tried to encourage the use of refrigerators in shops, but again apart from the high cost of the apparatus itself, the shopkeeper definitely frowns upon paying purchase tax on such essential equipment, the same also applies to instantaneous heaters of the electric or gas type.

Food handlers are being constantly reminded of the necessity for frequent washing of the hands, particularly after using the W.C. Constant reminders are also given regarding coughing, sneezing, cuts, styes, boils, etc., and we feel that at last some impression is being made.

Schools can do much to instil into the minds of children general hygiene principles. All children should be instructed at the time they start school that hands must be washed after using the W.C., and always before handling any food. They should also be taught at an early age about the spread of the more common ailments, such as colds. Much work can be done in this direction and by so doing the highest principles of hygiene can only be established.

**MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.**

Samples taken for presence of Tubercle Bacillus:

Number .....	12
Positive .....	Nil
Negative .....	12

**Distributors.**

Notices Served .....	3
Complied with .....	3
Dealers Licensed authorising Special Designation Tuberculin Tested	3
Supplementary Licences authorising Special Designation Tuberculin Tested .....	4
Supplementary Licences authorising Special Designation Pasteurised	3
Number of Registered Distributors .....	13

**MILK BORNE DISEASES.**

In August a man working at a dairy farm was taken ill with Undulant Fever. The case was fully investigated in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture Veterinary Surgeons. The milk from the farm was consigned to a Dairy at Birmingham, where it was subjected to heat treatment.

**MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.**

**Meat**

Meat Inspection is carried out alternate weeks by the Oswestry Borough and Rural Inspectors. The slaughterhouse is situated in the Borough.

Number of Animals Killed			
Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
2,282	1,196	4,920	864
Number of Animals Inspected by Rural Inspector.			
Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1,030	565	2,277	458

Examination of the internal and external masseter muscles, muscles of tongue, heart, and diaphragm of bovines has been made for the presence of *Cystycercus Bovis*. So far no animal has been found to be affected.

A large number of pigs were sent to the slaughterhouse as contacts with suspected swine fever. In most cases the lungs were found to be congested and pleurisy present. Nephritis was also found and a small number of turkey kidneys. However, close examination of the intestines revealed no ulcerated conditions and apart from about 7 cases of highly fevered carcasses, the remaining were passed for human food.

A number of sheep carcasses or part carcasses were condemned because of being badly mauled by dogs. Owners of dogs should be more alive to their responsibility in keeping them under proper control. Uncontrolled dogs allowed to stray on farmland cause agony to the sheep, and financial loss to the farmer, and a food loss to the nation. The public can help in this matter by reporting to the farmer or nearest police any dogs they see roaming alone on farmland.

### **MEAT AND FOODS CONDEMNED.**

#### **Fish.**

- 1 x 1 lb. Tin Salmon
- 126 lbs. Herrings.

#### **Meat.**

- 29 tins Luncheon Meat. 17 lbs. Pork (Internal Abscesses).
- 2 x 12 oz. Tin Mince Beef Loaf. 39 lbs Beef
- 6 lbs. C.C. Beef (Decomposed).
- 24 lbs. Mesentary (Decomposition).
- 33 lbs. Hindquarter Beef (Bruised).
- 7 lbs. Forequarter "A" Beef (Congenital Cyst).

#### **Fruit and Vegetables.**

- 1 x 1 lb. Tin Victoria Plums.
- 7 Tins Tomatoes.
- 2 x 1 lb. 3 oz. Tins Peas (Blown).
- 1 x 20 oz. Tin Crushed Pineapple
- 2 Tins Cherries
- 2 Jars Pickled Onions.
- 1 lb. Tin Beans.
- 1 x 19 oz. Tin Peas.
- 125 lbs Bacon.

#### **Miscellaneous.**

- 2 lb. Malt Extract with Cod Liver Oil.
- 8 lbs. Sweetened Sponge Mixture (Mites).
- 3 lb. Pie Crust.
- 5 oz. Jelly.
- 4 x 9 oz. Packets Cereals (Mites).
- 18 lb. Kako Mixture (Mites).
- 80 Dough Nuts.

#### **Milk.**

- 3 Tins Condensed Milk.
- 5 x 14 oz. Tins Condensed Milk (Transit Damage).

#### **Cheese.**

- 18 x 4 oz. Boxes Processed Cheese (Excessive mould).
- 23 lb. Cheese (Excessive mould).
- 15 x 6 oz. Boxes Cheese.



### LICENSED HOUSES

Licensed Houses in the district have been inspected during the year and in this connection the full co-operation of the Superintendent of Police has been given, particularly with regard to the siting of new sanitary conveniences. We have tried to achieve the principle of getting all sanitary conveniences under cover and thereby more conducive to the close supervision of the Licensee. In all cases we have also stressed the importance for complete separate access to conveniences used by the opposite sexes and without exception we have achieved this aim where new sanitary conveniences have been constructed.

All the premises are provided with hot and cold water supplies, and in the majority of cases stainless steel sinks and drainers have been fixed.

With regard to the sterilisation of beer glasses and other utensils in the trade, some licensees are already using powders of different brands, but the success of such powders has not been tested so far as the Health Department is concerned.

One of the largest Brewery Companies in the district has been approached by the department with a view to them encouraging their tenants and managers to use suitable quaternary compounds. The company has taken a sympathetic view and they have the question under consideration. We are also encouraging the use of automatic dispensers which when fixed over the bar sinks, discharge a given quantity of germicide to a given quantity of water in the sink. This obviously obviates the bar attendants having to measure out the proportions themselves and, therefore, renders more likely the constant treatment of glasses.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There are no public conveniences in the district, but during the year the Council has considered the question. However, though they appreciate the desirability for such amenities in the larger villages, they feel that the present is not an opportune time for taking further action.

### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There are 12 caravans used as moveable dwellings and licensed in accordance with the Public Health Act, 1936. There has been no cause for complaint during the year as to the manner in which any site has been conducted. Without exception, each dwelling is used on account of the occupier being unable to obtain traditional living accommodation.

### REFUSE COLLECTION.

Additional properties collected from during the year have been chiefly new Council Houses and a small number of new private houses.

There has been difficulty in obtaining labour for refuse collection work, despite the wage increases that have taken place during the year. Men are certainly not clambering after this type of work and it would appear that the position may become serious. Work of a much cleaner nature is attracting the younger men in particular, and there is no doubt that it must have its inevitable effects on refuse collection work in the future. Older men, whilst suitable for tip work, cannot stand the strain of lifting and emptying heavy bins.

Requests from occupiers have been made during the year for bins to be collected from the rear of houses. Whilst this is, no doubt, desirable, again the labour position does not allow for consideration of any such scheme at the present time.

Salvage is collected in conjunction with the refuse and I am pleased to state that there has been an increase in the amount collected of this valuable material



which is so urgently required. A still further effort is being made to enhance the amounts already collected.

### **PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.**

The functions of the above Act are for administration purposes carried out jointly by the Borough Council of Oswestry and the Oswestry Rural District Council.

During the year 81 premises were under contract in the R.D.C. area and a number of inspections and surveys were carried out particularly in villages. The scheme has worked satisfactorily and there is no doubt that a large number of rats are being killed annually. Very few major infestations have been found, though in a Rural District one must expect heavy infestations at farms during autumn and winter. It is satisfactory to note that many people are anxious to renew contracts at the beginning of the year, and favour the system as compared with basing the cost on actual labour and materials. Food shops in particular take advantage of the service and make good use of it whenever they see any sign of infestation either by rats or mice. Much scope is still left for inspection work and it is hoped that much of it will be concentrated on during the next year.

So far as proofing is concerned, very few written notices have been required, because of the ability of the operatives in being able to give advice on this point when actual treatments are being carried out.

A good knowledge of proofing is an essential part of an operatives job and he should be well trained for that purpose. The operatives should also have some knowledge of what damage rats can do, not only to food and buildings, etc., but also to health. If these points are well covered, the operative is likely to take a greater interest and feel he is doing a really worthwhile job. The work is one which local authorities cannot expect to produce financial profits, but the profits gained in other directions are inestimable and must not be lost sight of.

### **NUISANCES.**

Number dealt with by informal Notice .....	105
Number complied with .....	96
Number of Abatement Notices .....	6
Number complied with .....	1

Five of the Abatement Notices were served in the last few months of the year and involved rather a large amount of work, therefore, the time allowed in which to abate the nuisances had not expired at the end of the year.

### **Notices in Respect of Ashbins.**

Number of Statutory Notices served .....	4
Number complied with .....	4
Number of informal Notices served .....	47
Number complied with .....	30

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

RURAL DISTRICT OF OSWESTRY.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	7	10	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities .. ..	64	69	5	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	71	79	5	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases.”)

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found.	Remedied.	To H.M. Inspector.	Referred By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temper- ature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective ... ..	4	3	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	6	5	—	—	—



# WEM RURAL DISTRICT

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

#### Water Supplies.

Rainfall Not measured.

Consumption. Not measured.

#### Prees Waterworks.

(1) Number of dwellings supplied from water mains .....	221
(a) direct to mains .....	182
(b) by means of standpipes .....	39
(2) Number of population supplied by water mains (estimated) .....	590
(a) direct to mains .....	473
(b) by means of standpipes .....	117

#### Higher Heath Waterworks.

(1) Number of dwellings supplied from water mains .....	155
(a) permanent .....	24
(b) temporary .....	131
(2) Number of population supplied by water mains (estimated) .....	434

Parts of the villages of Preston Brockhurst, Grinshill, Ash, Clive, Hadnall and Stanton are supplied by private undertakers, as follows:—

#### Acton Reynold Estate Supply, Preston Brockhurst and Grinshill.

(1) Number of dwellings supplied from water mains .....	88
(a) direct to mains .....	66
(b) by means of standpipes .....	22
(2) Number of population supplied by water mains (estimated) .....	308

#### Duchy of Lancaster Supply, Ash.

(1) Number of dwellings supplied from water mains .....	30
(a) direct to mains .....	14
(b) by means of standpipes .....	16
(2) Number of population supplied by water mains (estimated) .....	105

#### Meadowfields Farm, Clive, Supply.

(1) Number of dwellings supplied from water mains .....	102
(2) Number of population supplied by water mains (estimated) .....	353

#### Hardwicke Estate Supply.

(1) Number of dwellings supplied from water mains .....	131
(a) direct to mains .....	94
(b) by means of standpipes .....	37
(2) Number of population supplied by water mains (estimated) .....	459



**Harcourt Estate Supply, Stanton.****(a) Danes Well**

(1) Number of dwellings supplied from water mains .....	10
(a) direct to mains .....	7
(b) by means of standpipes .....	3
(2) Number of population supplied by water mains (estimated) .....	35

**(b) Reservoir.**

(1) Number of dwellings supplied from water mains .....	52
(a) direct to mains .....	48
(b) by means of standpipes .....	4
(2) Number of population supplied by water mains (estimated) .....	182

In addition the hamlets of Aston, Barkers Green and Tilley, and the temporary hutted camp at Bridleway Gate obtain water in bulk from the Wem Urban District Council as under:—

(1) Number of dwellings supplied from water mains .....	84
(a) direct to mains .....	(i) permanent dwellings 25
	(ii) temporary dwellings 22
(b) by means of standpipes .....	(i) permanent dwellings 37
(2) Number of population supplied by water mains (estimated) .....	294
(a) direct to mains .....	(i) permanent dwellings 87
	(ii) temporary dwellings 77
(b) by means of standpipes .....	(i) permanent dwellings 130

**Summary.**

(1) Total number of dwellings supplied from water mains .....	873
(2) Total population supplied by water mains (estimated)	2,760

The number of houses which have a piped supply of water constitutes about 28 per cent of the total number of houses in the district, the remaining 72 per cent of the houses obtaining their supplies from wells. Much of this well water is of doubtful quality and in a large proportion of cases the water has to be carried some distance. Where the water is found to be of doubtful quality consumers are advised to boil it before drinking.

The Council have approved a comprehensive scheme for providing a piped supply of water to the district. A survey of the premises involved was commenced during December, 1951.

**Results of samples of piped water supplies to villages.**

				No. of coliform bacilli per 100 ml.	Faecal coli per cent.
Prees	..	..	7 Feb. 51	Nil	Nil
			24 Apr. 51	Nil	Nil
			9 Jul. 51	Nil	Nil
Higher Heath	..		24 Apr. 51	Nil	Nil
			9 Jul. 51	Nil	Nil
Preston Brockhurst and Grinshill	..		29 Jan. 51	Nil	Nil
			25 Apr. 51	Nil	Nil
			24 Jul. 51	2	50
Ash—Mains Supply			28 Nos. 51	Nil	Nil
			24 Apr. 51	1	100
			22 May 51	Nil	Nil
			9 Jul. 51	Nil	Nil
			31 Jul. 51	Nil	Nil
No. 1 Reservoir			22 May 51	Nil	Nil
			31 Jul. 51	Nil	Nil
No. 2 Reservoir Pump			31 Jul. 51	Nil	Nil
			31 Jul. 51	Nil	Nil
Clive	..	..	29 Jan. 51	2	Nil
			25 Apr. 51	Nil	Nil
			24 Jul. 51	5	Nil
Hadnall	..	..	25 Apr. 51	35	Nil
			6 Jun. 51	Nil	Nil
			24 Jul. 51	Nil	Nil
Stanton—Mains	..		25 Apr. 51	Nil	Nil
			24 Jul. 51	1	100
			28 Nov. 51	20	100
			19 Dec. 51	Nil	Nil
			19 Dec. 51	Nil	Nil
Spring			19 Dec. 51	Nil	Nil
Pump			19 Dec. 51	Nil	Nil
Reservoir			19 Dec. 51	Nil	Nil

Steps were taken to improve the supplies where samples showed the water not to be satisfactory.

**Drainage and Sewerage.**

Number of houses connected to public sewers ..... Nil

Number of houses having own private arrangements for  
sewage disposal ..... No Record

Number of unsatisfactory private sewage disposal works  
No Record

Number of unsatisfactory private sewage disposal works  
No Record

Number of privies or earth closets converted to W.C's ..... 23

Schemes are in course of preparation for sewerage the villages of Ash and Prees.





**Ice Cream Premises.**

Number of ice cream manufacturers .....	1
Number of ice cream retailers (including the manufacturer) .....	12

**Slaughterhouses.**

Number of licensed premises .....	2
Number inspected .....	2

No food animals were slaughtered at these establishments during 1951.

**Hotels, Beer Houses, Bars and Cellars.**

Number of premises inspected .....	12
Number of defects found .....	Nil
Number of defects remedied .....	Nil

The facilities for washing glasses were satisfactory.

**Meat and Other Foods.**

Meat for the District is supplied by Ministry of Foods Depots at Shrewsbury and Whitchurch, and is transported in modern metal-lined containers.

Routine inspections of the containers were carried out during the year, and both vans were found to be maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition.

The Department has been called upon to inspect all varieties of foodstuffs and the following were voluntarily surrendered by the retailers:—

Canned Fruit .....	14lbs. 9ozs.
Canned Boiled Ham .....	19lbs. 2ozs..
Macaroni .....	26lbs.
Flour Cake and Pudding Mixtures .....	63lbs. 8ozs.

**Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.**

Number of distributors (as defined in the Regulations) ....	2
Number of retailers of Tuberculin Tested milk .....	3
Number of retailers of Pasteurised milk .....	2

**Public Conveniences**

Number .....	Nil
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The Council have in hand a scheme for the erection of public conveniences at Prees Heath, near Whitchurch.

**Lodging Houses.**

Number .....	Nil
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**Refuse Disposal.**

Number of Parishes .....	14
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Refuse is collected by contract once each month from approximately 1,925 houses.

**Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

Inspections of premises under this act are carried out from time to time; the following is a summary for 1951:—

Number of properties inspected .....	70
(a) Local authority premises .....	2
(b) Dwellinghouses .....	31
(c) Agricultural premises .....	18
(d) Other premises (including business and industrial) .....	19
Number of properties found to be infested by rats .....	6
Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act .....	1
Number of properties cleared of rats .....	6

**Nuisances.**

No particular nuisance has had to be dealt with.

**Verminous Premises and Persons.**

No premises or persons were found to be verminous.

**FACTORIES ACT, 1937.****RURAL DISTRICT OF WEM.**

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

**PART I OF THE ACT.**

1.—**INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	49	13	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	17	20	—	—
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

2.—**CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.**

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temper- ature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inad quate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineff ctive drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective ...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not includ- ing offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>



## CLINICS AND HOSPITALS IN THE DISTRICT TUBERCULOSIS

The Chest Physician attends at:—

Oswestry, the Clinic, Upper Brook Street, every Friday from 1-30 p.m. to 3-15 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Whitchurch, 27, St. Mary's Street, the first Friday in each month, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Shrewsbury, 17, Belmont, every Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

## VENEREAL DISEASES

**Facilities for Treatment.—Clinics.**

**OSWESTRY:**

These are administered by the Regional Hospital Board and are available at the various centres given below, the Medical Officer attending on the dates and at the hours given.

The Dispensary, 1, Victoria Road, Oswestry.

**THURSDAYS:** Men—1 p.m. to 2 p.m.      Women—1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

**SHREWSBURY:**

1, Belmont, Shrewsbury.

**THURSDAYS and FRIDAYS:** Men—6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**MONDAYS:** Women—3-30 p.m. to 5-30 p.m.      **Wednesdays:** Women—2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

## HOSPITALS IN THE DISTRICT

Oswestry and District Hospital.

Ellesmere Cottage Hospital.

Whitchurch Cottage Hospital.

Cases of Enteric Fevers, Meningitis, Acute Poliomyelitis or Acute Encephalitis are treated at Copthorne Hospital, while Monkmoor Hospital, Shrewsbury, admits other cases of Infectious Disease such as Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles, Whooping Cough, etc.

Other hospitals which provide accommodation for the district are:—

The County Council Hospital, Cross Houses, Shrewsbury.

The Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury.

Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, Shrewsbury.

The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Park Hall, Oswestry.

All these hospitals are administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board which was constituted in accordance with the National Health Service Act.

## AMBULANCE SERVICES

Under the National Health Service Act it became the duty of the County Council, the Local Health Authority under the Act, to make provisions for securing that ambulances and other means of transport are available for the conveyance of persons suffering from illness or mental defectiveness and expectant mothers or nursing mothers, from places in their area to places in or outside their area, and particulars of these were given in last year's report.

## LABORATORY FACILITIES

These are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury, Telephone Shrewsbury 4389. The Bacteriologist is Dr. A. C. Jones, and the Pathologist, Dr. G. Grant.

This service, originally instituted as an emergency basis, is now a permanent unit at the Royal Salop Infirmary undertaking work for Local Authorities free of charge in so far as it is relevant to diagnosis. This service is invaluable, particularly in the expeditious dealing with the bacteriological examination of food samples.





